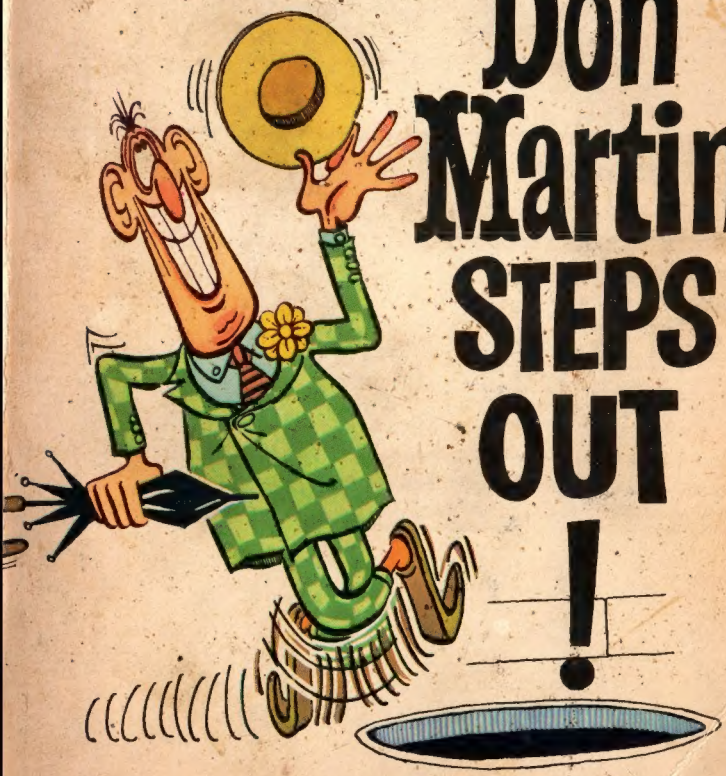
A SIGNET BOOK • T5067 • 75c

MAD'S MADDEST ARTIST

Don Martin STEPS OUT!



A SIGNET BOOK

Don Martin,

MAD's maddest artist,
goes it alone
with a book
of completely new
and original cartoons
that only SIGNET
would dare to publish!

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MAD'S MADDEST ARTIST

Don Martin STEPS OUT!

Drawn by Don Martin
Written by Don Martin and E. Solomon Rosenblum
With a Foreword by
Albert B. Feldstein, Editor of MAD

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FOREWARNED

I have been asked to write a Foreword to this collection of cartoons by Don Martin because I am the Editor of MAD . . . which is a very funny magazine full of parody and satire, and comes out eight times a year, and costs only 25¢, and is worth every penny of it.

Six years ago, a shy unassuming talented artist walked into the MAD offices with a collection of the funniest, the cleverest, the most absurd cartoons we had ever seen. When we gathered around to look them over, we literally rolled on the floor laughing. The cartoonist's name was Charles Addams.

Unfortunately, we couldn't afford Charles Addams, so we hired the next guy to walk in after him . . . a virtually unknown cartoonist named Don Martin.

The rest is history. Today Don is still a virtually unknown cartoonist . . . except maybe to the five or ten million loyal fans who have gotten to love his stuff in the pages of MAD. They love him because his style is unique, because his outlook on life is especially appropriate to our times, because his sequences have the same outrageous physical impact as the old silent-movie greats—Charlie Chaplin, Buster Keaton, the Keystone Kops. But mainly, they love him because he is funny.

All seriousness aside, many people have written us asking about Don—who he is, where he comes from. . . . Don

Martin was born in a log cabin which he helped his father build. His childhood was a simple one. That's because he was a simple child. It was at a high school dance that he first met the woman who would later keep house and care for him . . . his mother. She'd left the Martin family before Don was born, so he never really knew her. Don distinguished himself while serving with the Army in Europe, where he blew up a German bridge and captured 14 soldiers, including a general, single-handed. Unfortunately, this was in 1958. It was while serving a prison term for this that Don met the man who was responsible for his art career and his whole new view of life . . . his optometrist.

The cartoon stories in this collection are all original. They have never appeared in print before. That's because nobody else had the nerve to publish them. Not even the gang at MAD . . . which is a very funny magazine full of parody and satire, and comes out eight times a year, and costs only 25¢, and is worth every penny of it, and I'll be darned if I'm gonna write Forewords for free without getting in as many plugs as I can.

Al Feldstein

X *(his mark)*

Editor
MAD Magazine

INTRODUCING FESTER BESTERTESTER....

...AND HIS PROTÉGÉ... KARBUNKLE

FESTER AND KARBUNKLE

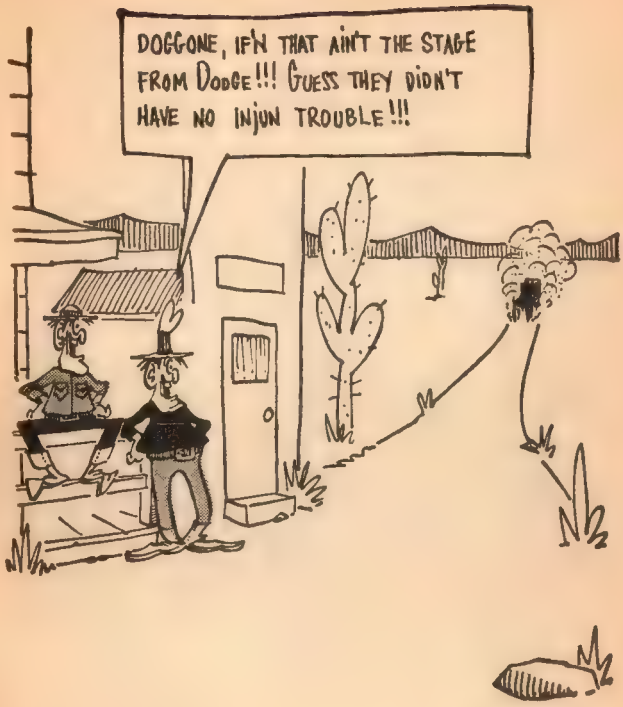
•

OUT WEST

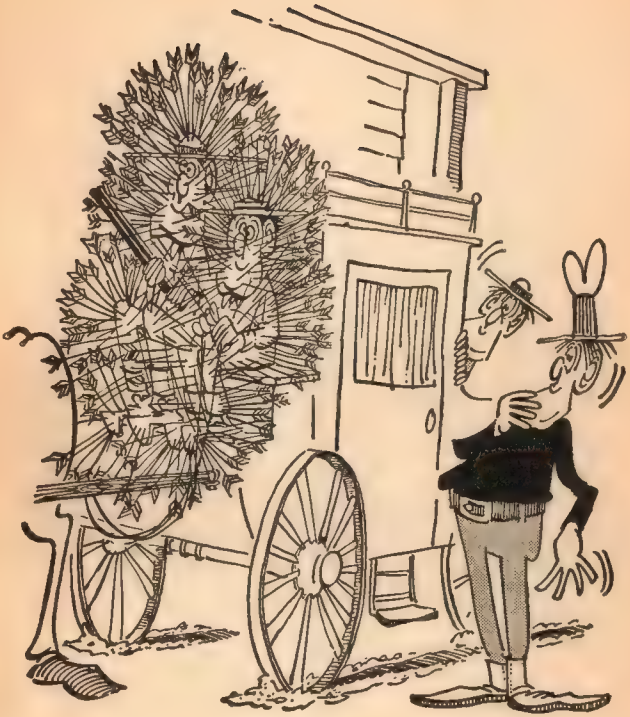
•

CHEYENNE

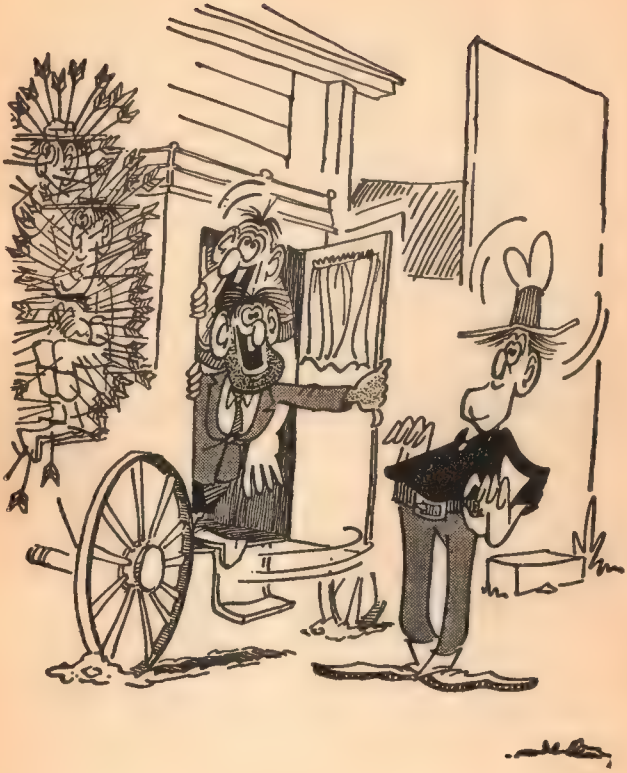
CHEYENNE


DOGGONE, IF'N THAT AIN'T THE STAGE FROM DODGE!!! GUESS THEY DIDN'T HAVE NO INJUN TROUBLE!!!

SKREEEEEE



DOGGONE-NOW AIN'T THAT A SHAME. WHERE ARE WE GONNA GET TWO MORE DRIVERS TO TAKE THIS STAGE TO LARAMIE.



WE'RE HERE, KARBUNKLE.....
WE'RE HERE!!!!!! THE WEST!!!!
THE GRAND-THE GLORIOUS WEST!!!

LOOK AT THOSE WIDE-OPEN SPACES.....
THOSE BRIGHT BLUE SKIES!!!
IT'S THE NEW FRONTIER I TELL YOU!!

HOWDY!!! YOU STRANGERS NEW IN TOWN??
LIKE TO EARN A LITTLE CASH PERHAPS??

DID YOU HEAR THAT, KARBUNKLE? WE'VE STRUCK GOOD FORTUNE!!! JUST LIKE I SAID WE WOULD WHEN MY BIG TOE STARTED TO HURT THIS MORNING.

AM I TO UNDERSTAND THAT WHEN YOUR BIG TOE STARTS A-HURTIN' IT'S A SIGN OF GOOD LUCK, MISTER?

THAT IS PRECISELY WHAT I MEAN! THIS BIG TOE RIGHT HERE. BEEN HURTIN' TERRIBLE ALL DAY.

WELL—LIKE I SAY; ALL YA' GOTTA' DO IS DRIVE THIS HERE STAGE TO FORT LARAMIE. THE MAN THERE WILL GIVE YOU FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS!!!

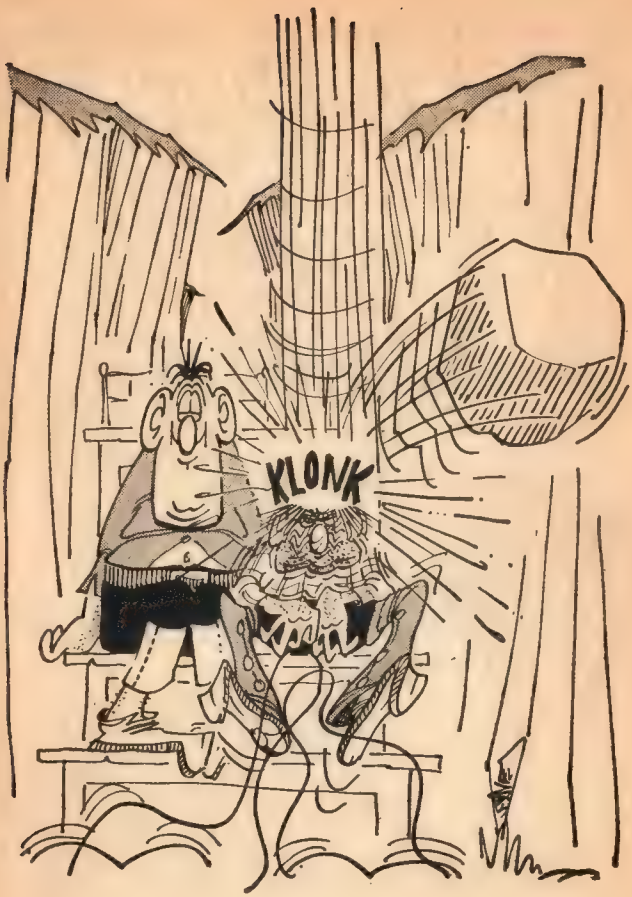
LET'S HOP ABOARD, KARBUNKLE—
WE'RE A-HEADIN' FOR LARAMIE !!!

-RAY!!
HOORAY!!
HOOBLA!
RAY-
THE STAGE IS A-GOIN THROUGH!
HOORAY!
YIPPEE!!

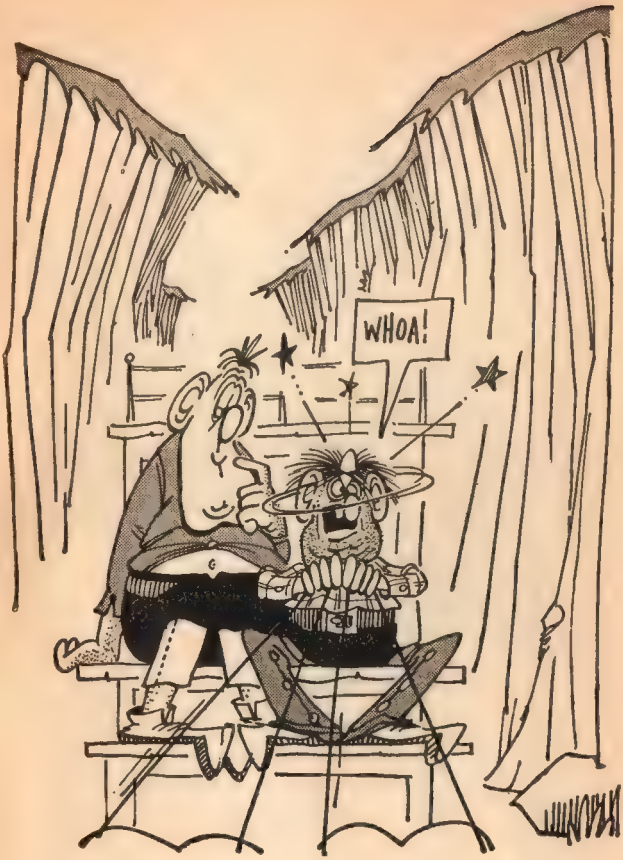
GIT ALONG LITTLE DOGGIE, GIT ALONG....

AH, KARBUNKLE, MY BOY!! I SEE NOTHING BUT joy AND PROSPERITY AHEAD!! LOOK AT THOSE BEAUTIFUL HILLS!! THOSE MAGNIFICENT CLIFFS!!!

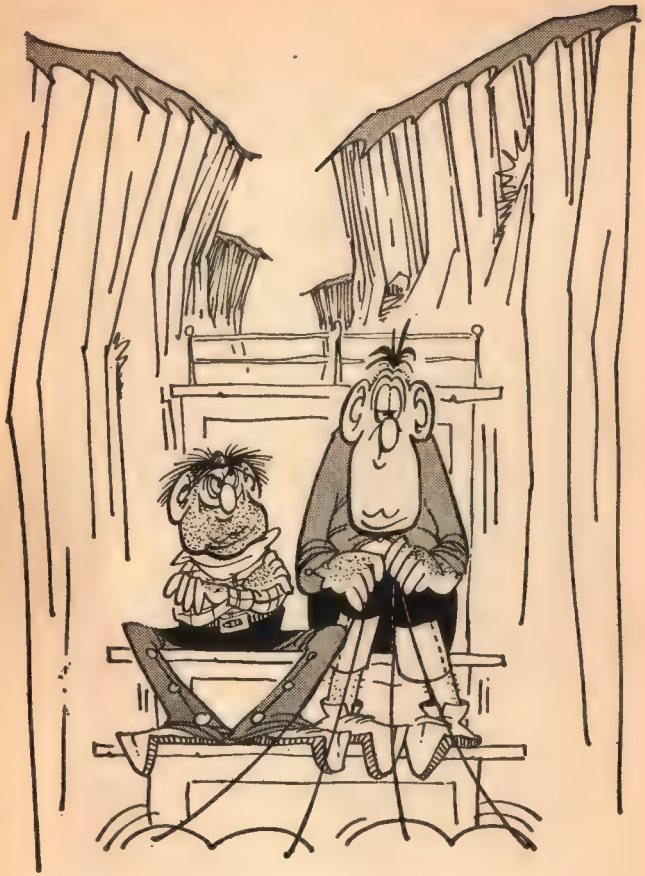
WHY, IT MAKES A MAN HEADSTRONG. YESSIR—WE'RE HEADING FOR OUR POT OF GOLD. WE'RE GOING TO GET AHEAD. WHY, THIS WHOLE SCENE MAKES MY HEAD SPIN!!!


KLONK

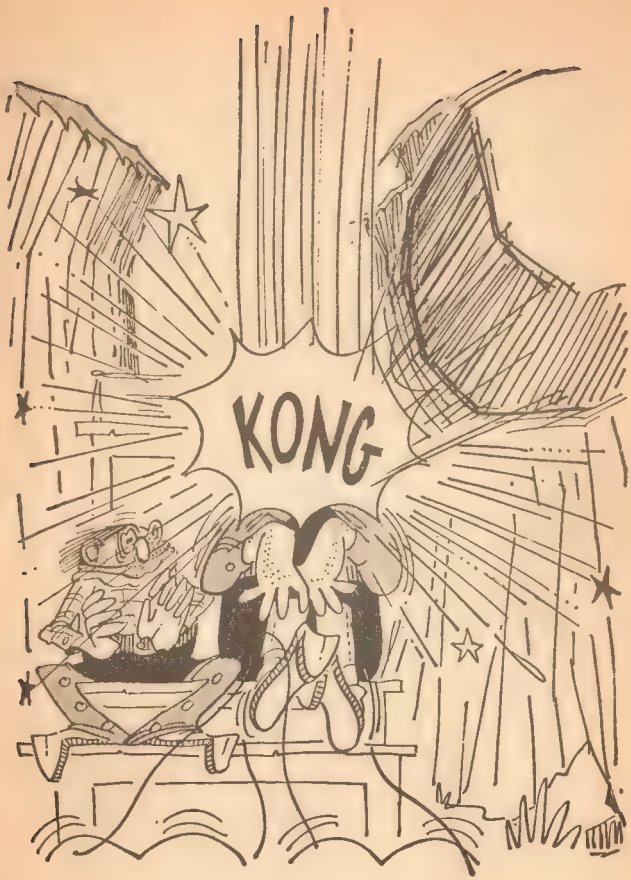
BONK

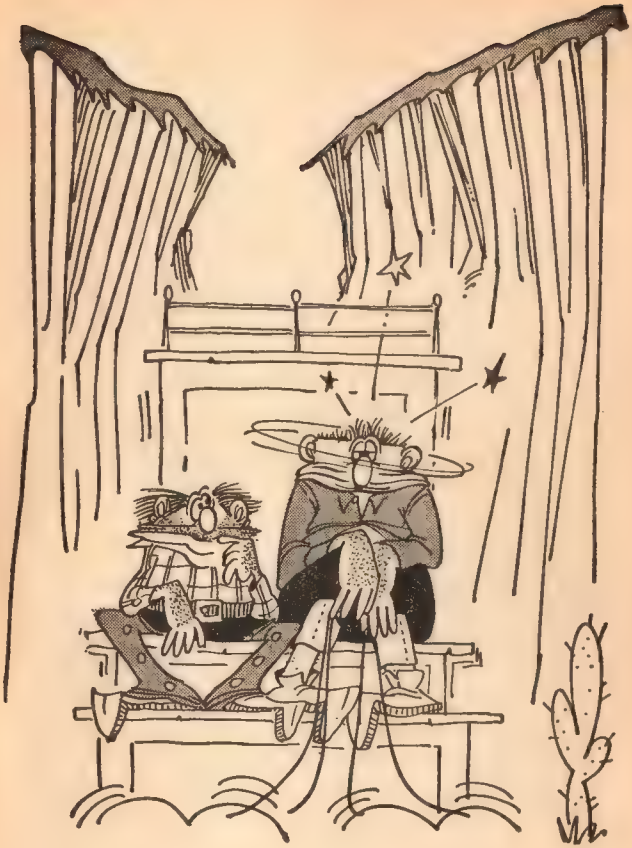

WHOA!

ALL RIGHT, WISE GUY – YOU DRIVE!!! IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU DID SOME WORK AROUND HERE!!



KLANG


KONG



WHEE HA HA HA –
WHEE HA HA HA – WHEE HA HA HA...

HE-HE
HA-HA
HOO-HOO-
HO-HA-
FORT LARAMIE
202
miles

FORT
LARAMIE

DOGGONE, IF'N IT AIN'T THE STAGE FROM CHEYENNE!!! GUESS THEY DIDN'T HAVE NO INJUN TROUBLE!

SKREEEEEEEE

NO, WE DIDN'T HAVE NO INJUN TROUBLE, BUT WE RAN INTO A HAILSTORM YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE!!!

WELL, KARBUNKLE, I GOESS STAGECOACH DRIVING ISN'T FOR US. BUT DON'T WORRY I'M SURE SOMETHING WILL TURN UP.

SKREEEEEE

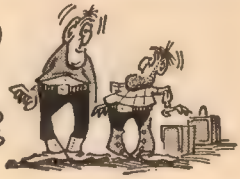
HOW WOULD YOU FELLERS LIKE TO EARN TWENTY DOLLARS? ALL YOU GOTTA' DO IS STAND HERE WITH YOUR ARM OUTSTRETCHED LIKE THIS !!!

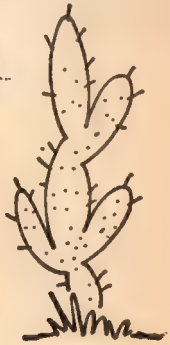
I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
WHAT KIND OF JOB IS THAT?

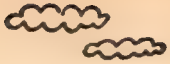
IT'S A KNOWN FACT, HERE IN THE WEST, THAT THE ONLY WAY TO STOP A STAMPEDE OF BRAHMAN BULLS IS TO SPLIT THE HERD. THE ONLY WAY TO SPLIT THE HERD IS TO STAND IN THE MIDDLE OF THEM WITH YOUR ARM OUTSTRETCHED!!!

STAMPEDE OF BRAHMAN BULLS?!!?
BUT WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH US?!!?

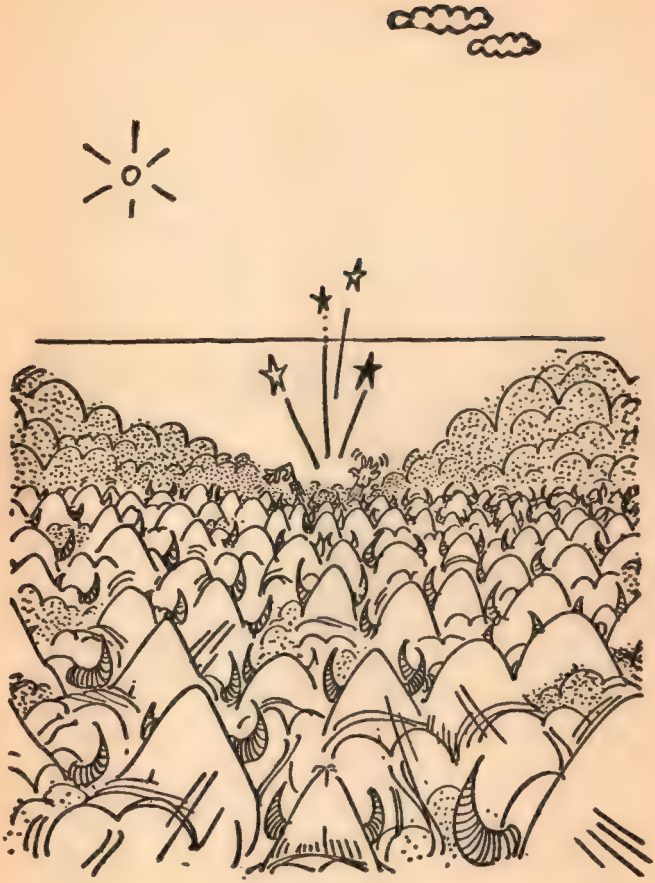
EIGHT HUNDRED THOUSAND OF EM. OUT OF THEIR HEADS ON LOCOWEED!! I'LL BE BACK WITH YOUR TWENTY DOLLARS, LATER!!!

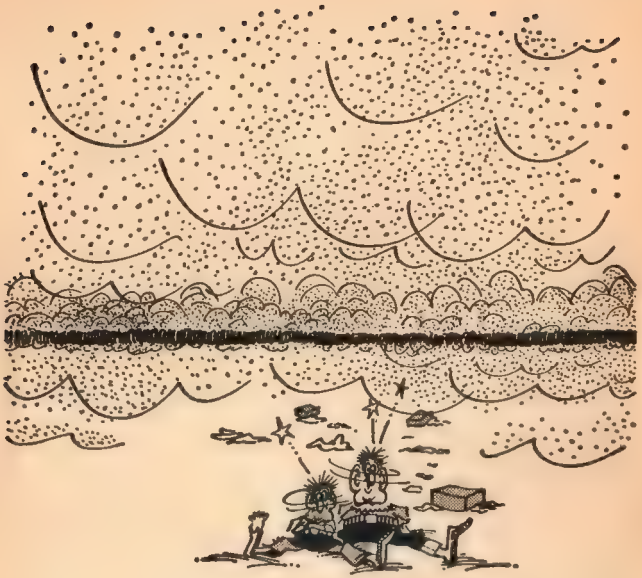


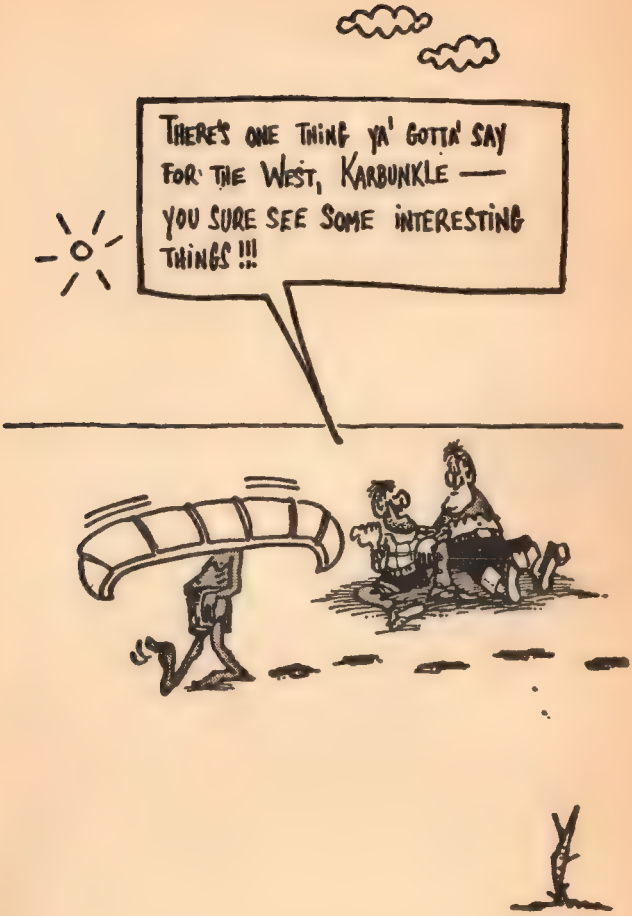




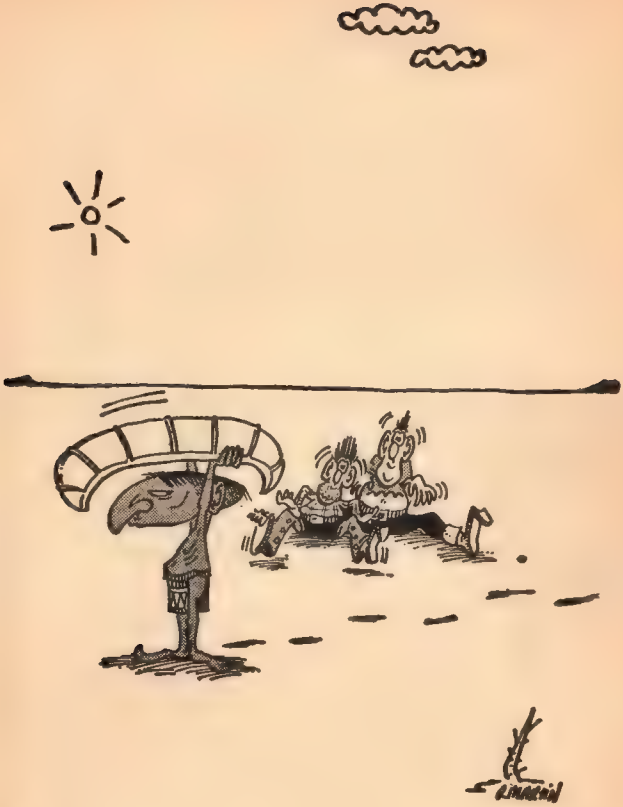
IT WORKED!!! IT ACTUALLY WORKED!!!
NOT ONLY ARE WE LEFT UNHARMED,
BUT WE GAIN TWENTY DOLLARS!!!






THERE'S ONE THING YA' GOTTA' SAY FOR THE WEST, KARBUNKLE — YOU SURE SEE SOME INTERESTING THINGS !!!

NOW, HOW DO YOU SUPPOSE THAT INDIAN MANAGES TO CARRY A CANOE AROUND ON HIS HEAD?!?

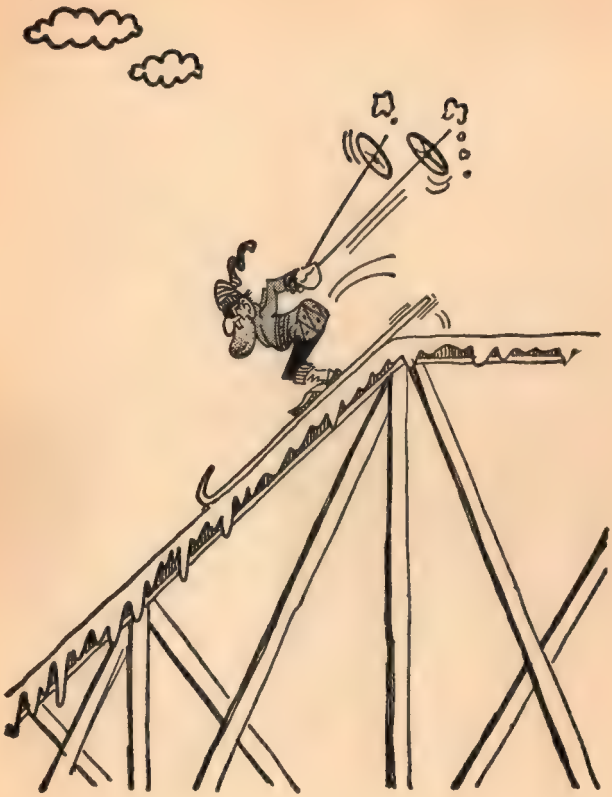


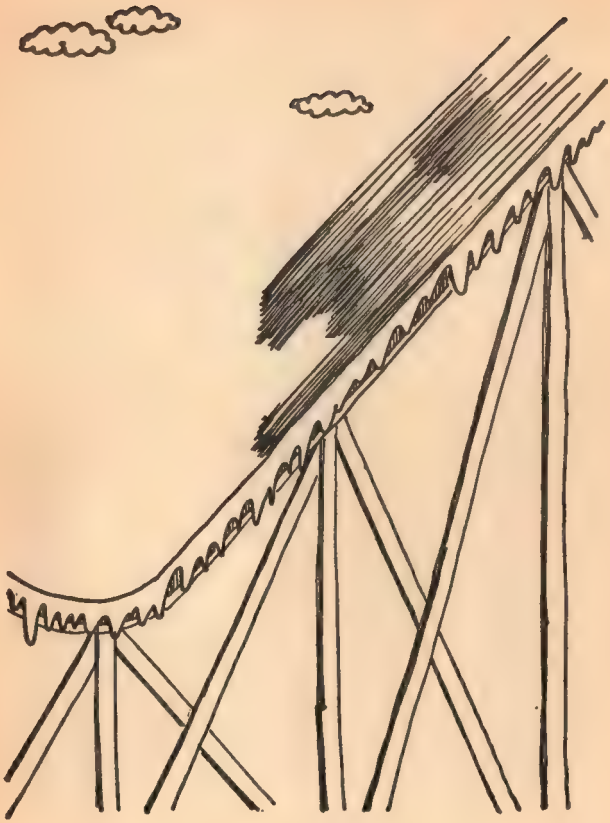
END

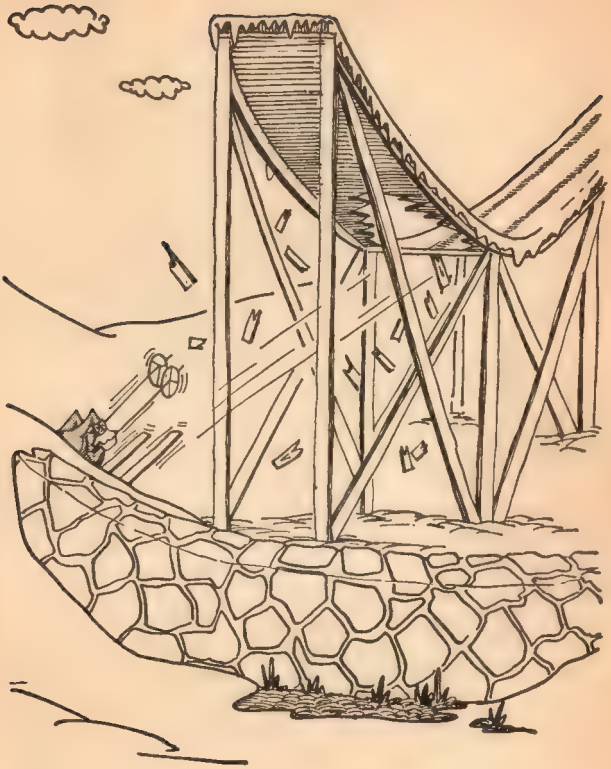
FESTER

GOES

SKI JUMPING





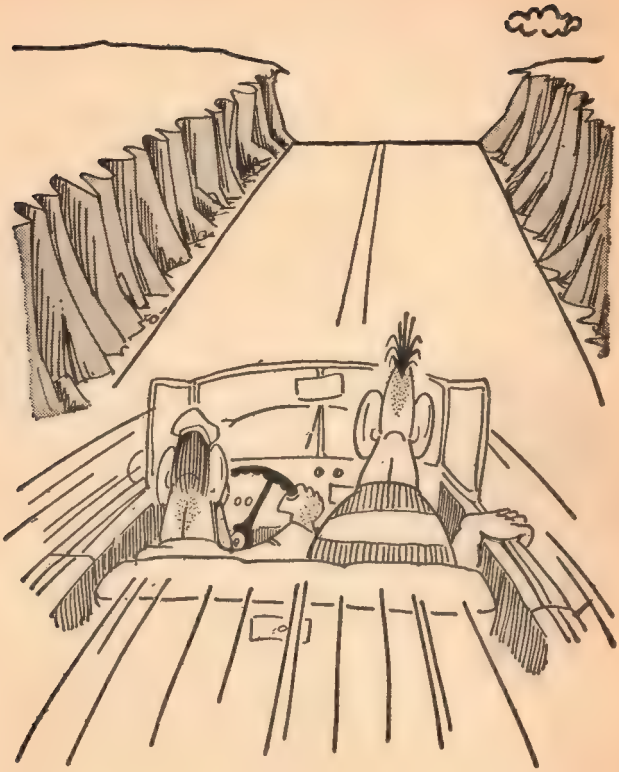


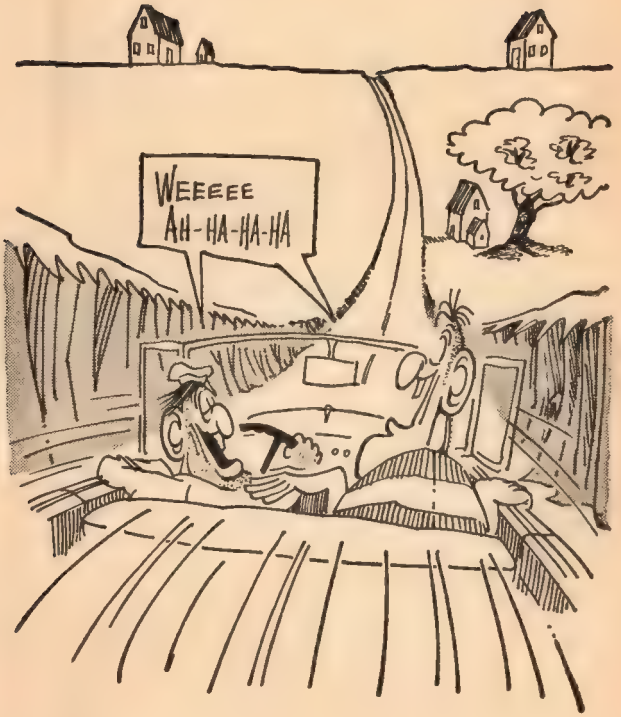
END

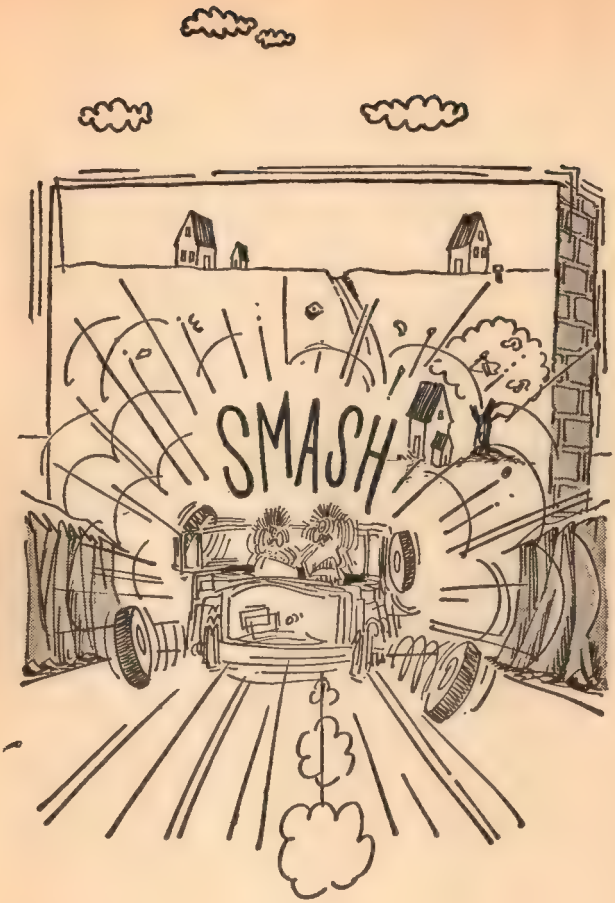
FESTER AND KARBUNKLE

THE MOTOR TRIP

YA' KNOW WHAT'S FUN WHEN YOU'RE DRIVING UP A HILL LIKE THIS, KARBUNKLE? PRETEND IT'S NOT A HILL BUT THE EDGE OF A CLIFF, AND WE'RE GOING TO FLY OFF INTO SPACE.




WEEEEE
AH-HA-HA-HA



END

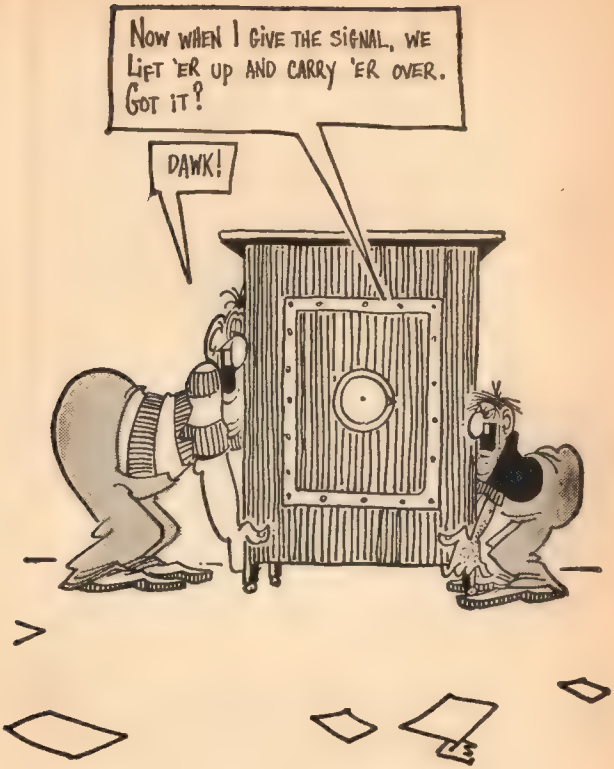
FESTER AND KARBUNKLE

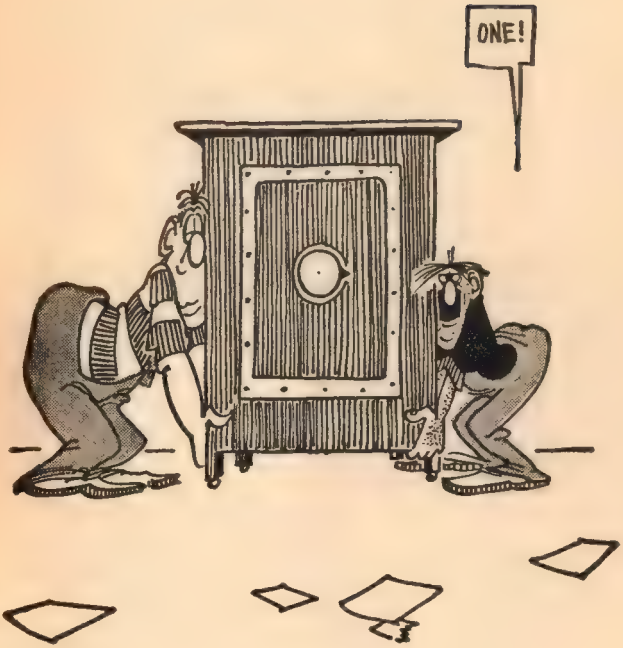
THE SAFE MOVERS

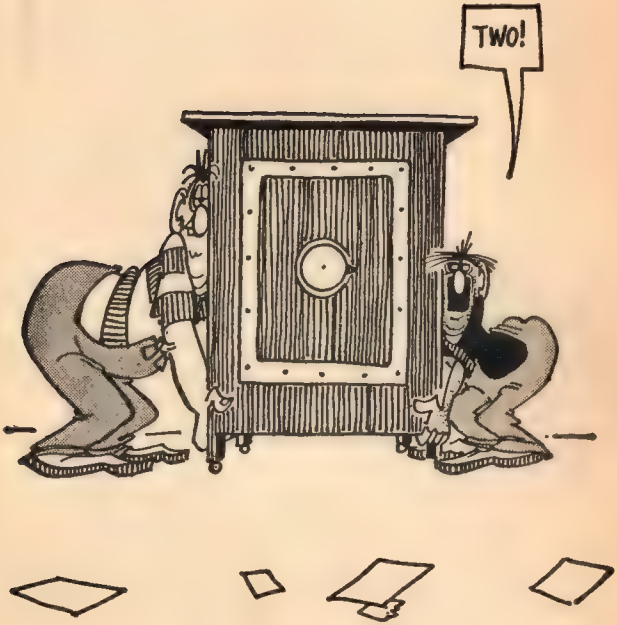
WELL, THIS IS THE SAFE, BOYS. I WANT IT MOVED PROMPTLY AND QUIETLY TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE OFFICE. THINK YOU CAN DO IT ??

DID YOU HEAR THAT, KARBUNKLE? HE WANTS TO KNOW IF WE THINK WE CAN DO IT!
FOREMAN

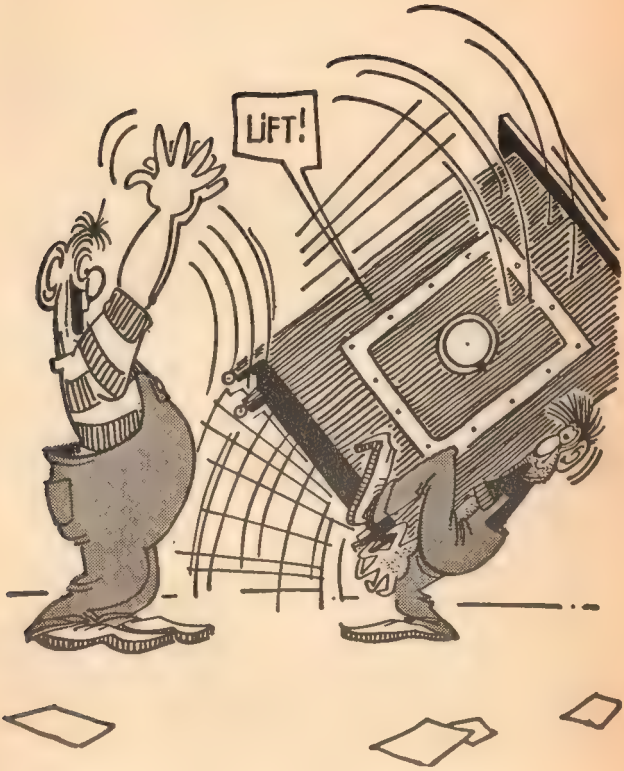
GRAB HOLD, MY BOY, AND LET'S SHOW THIS GENTLEMAN HOW SAFE MOVING IS REALLY DONE!

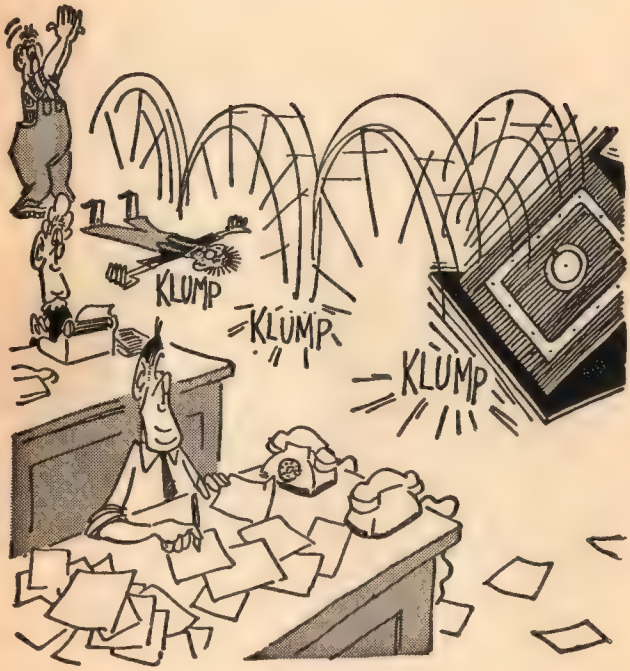

NOW WHEN I GIVE THE SIGNAL, WE LIFT 'ER UP AND CARRY 'ER OVER. GOT IT?
DAWK!


ONE!


TWO!

GET SET!


LIFT!

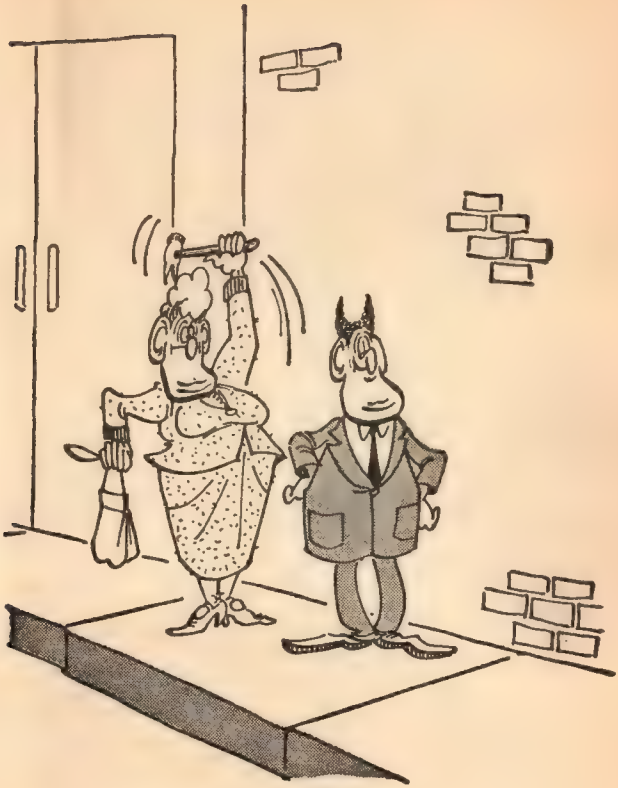

KLUMP
KLUMP
KLUMP

FOOM!

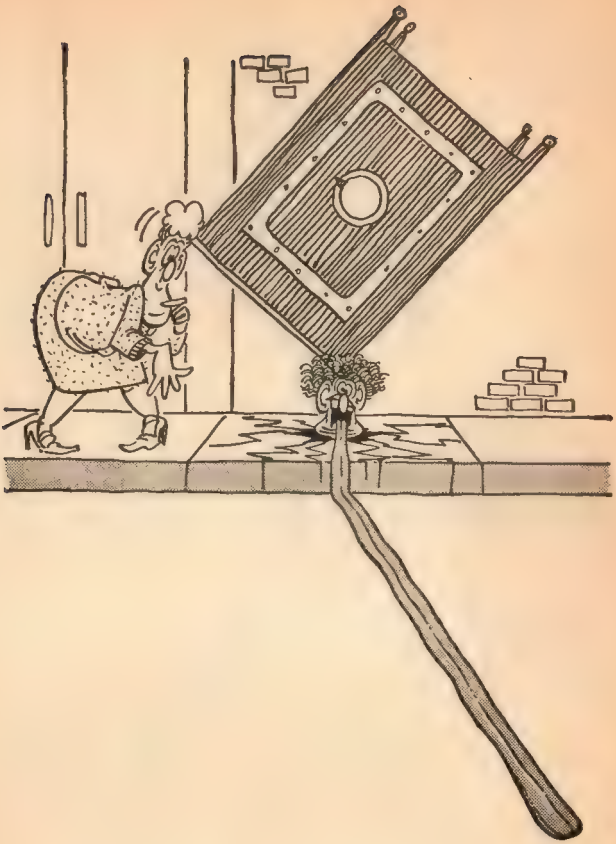
WELL, HOW DO YOU FEEL DEAR, NOW THAT YOU'VE HAD THOSE THREE IMPACTED WISDOM TEETH PULLED?

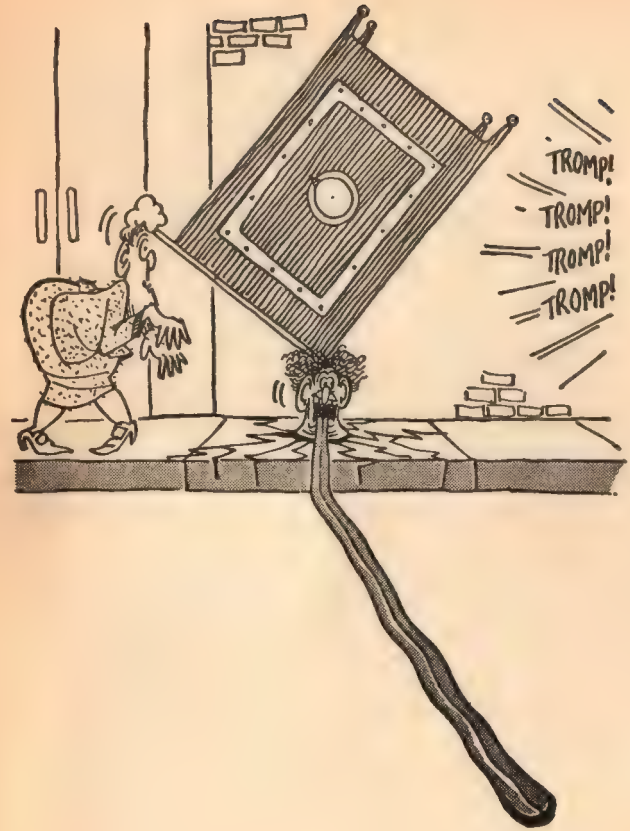
FINE! WHY, THE DOCTOR FILLED ME WITH SO MUCH NOVOCAINE, HE COULD HAVE PULLED THEM ALL OUT AND I WOULDN'T HAVE KNOWN IT!

IN OTHER WORDS, DEAR, IF I WERE TO RAP YOU ON THE HEAD WITH THIS HAMMER, IT WOULDN'T HURT?
THAT IS CORRECT.



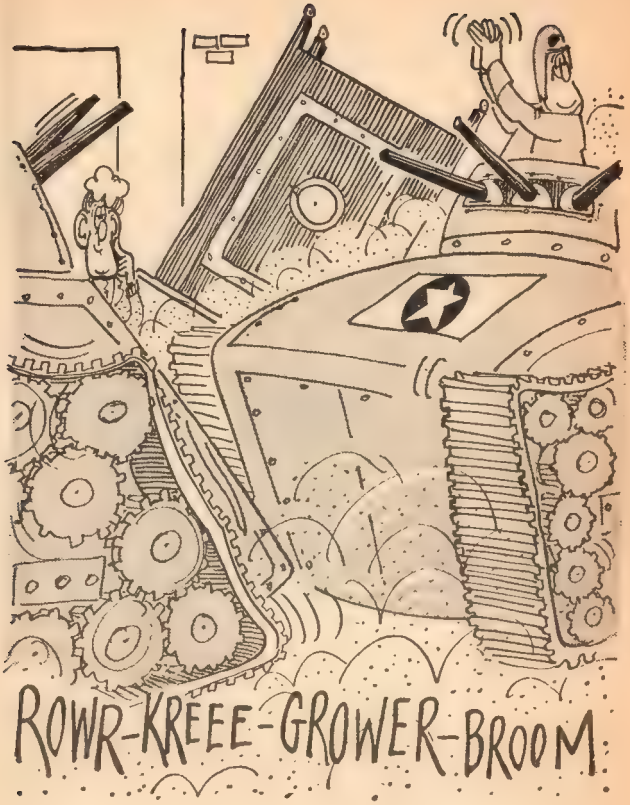
THUNK

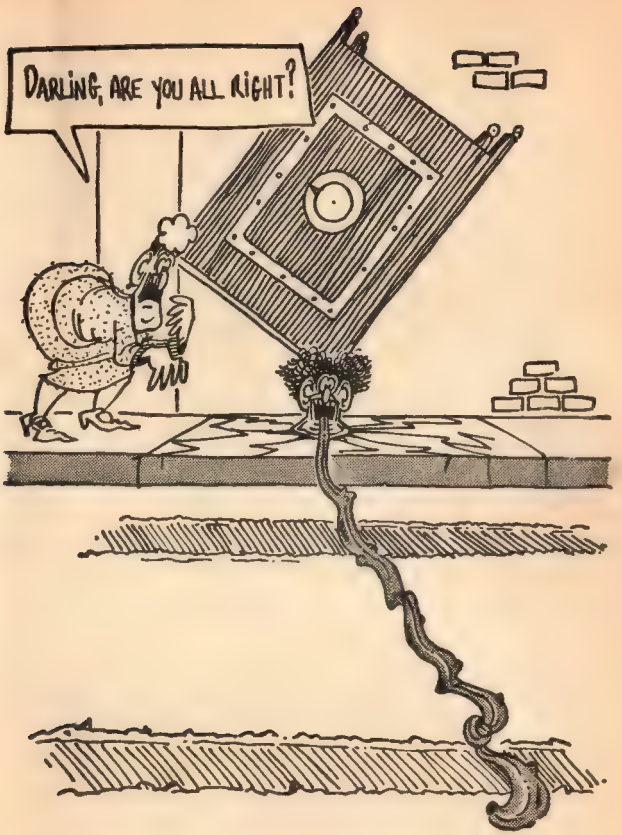


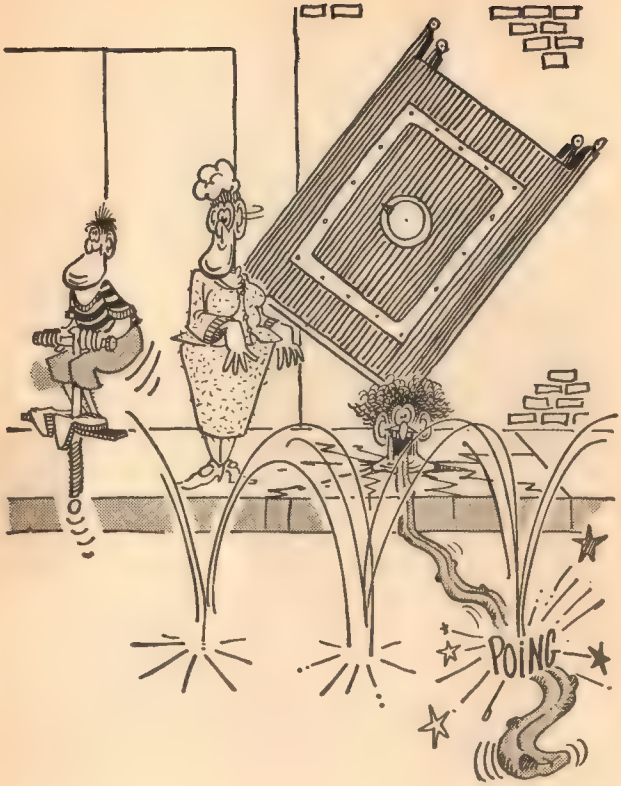

TROMP!
TROMP!
TROMP!
TROMP!

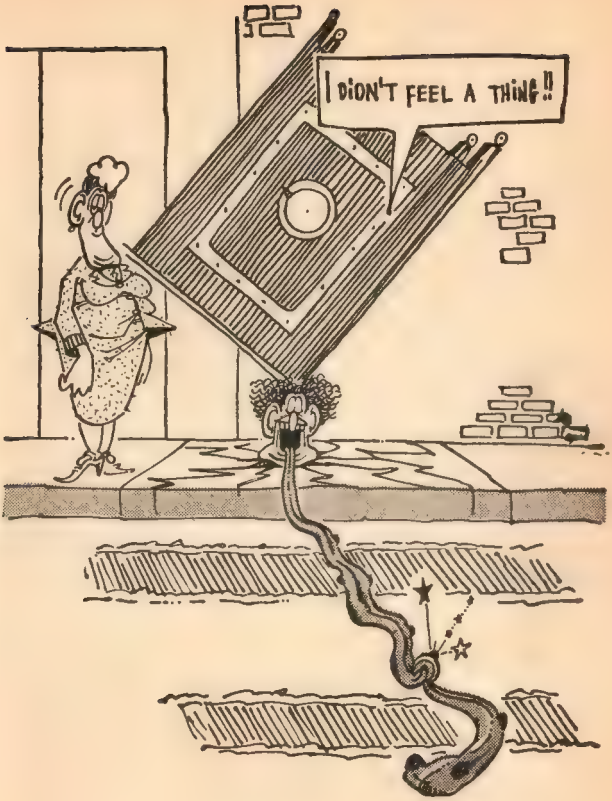
TROMP - TROMP - TROMP - TROMP

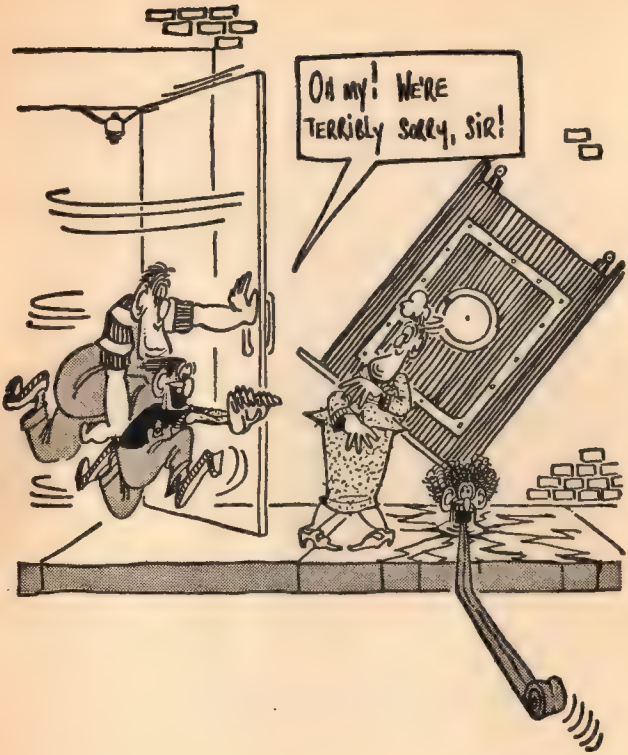
ROWR-GROWR-SKREEEK! BROOM-ROOOM

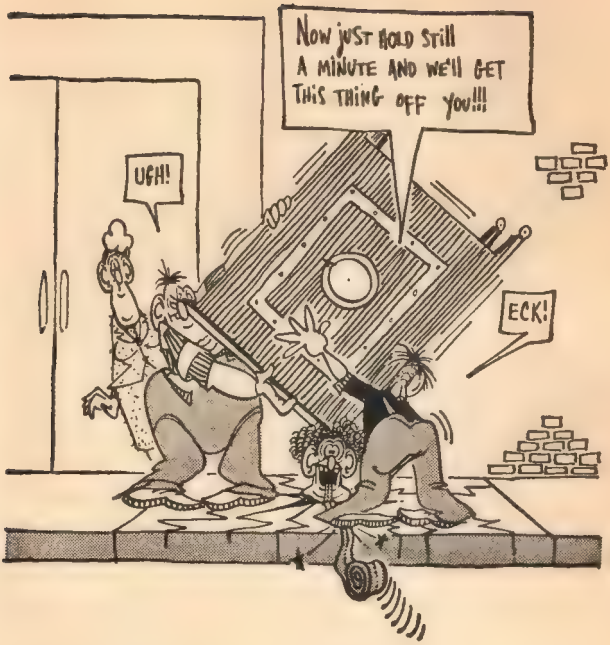

ROWR-KREEE-GROWER-BROOM

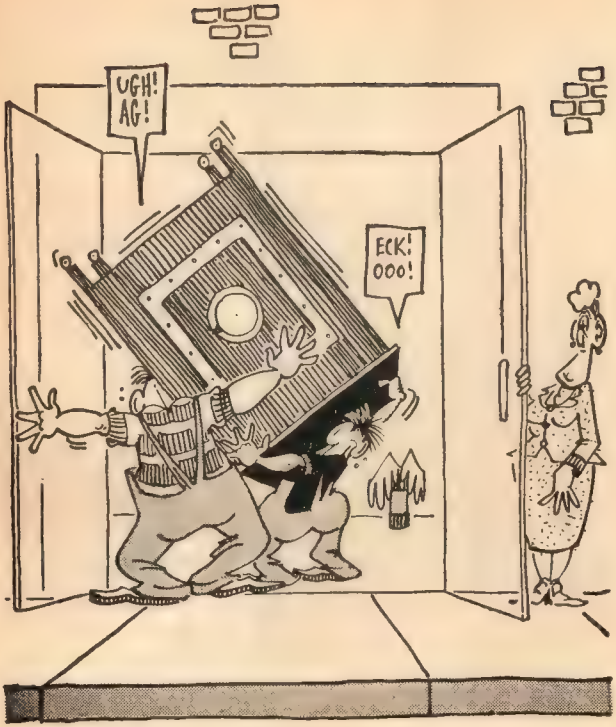

DARLING, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?


POING

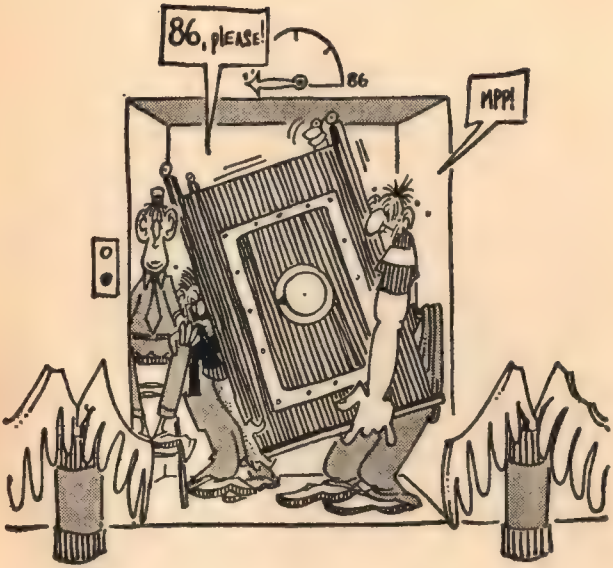

I DIDN'T FEEL A THING!!

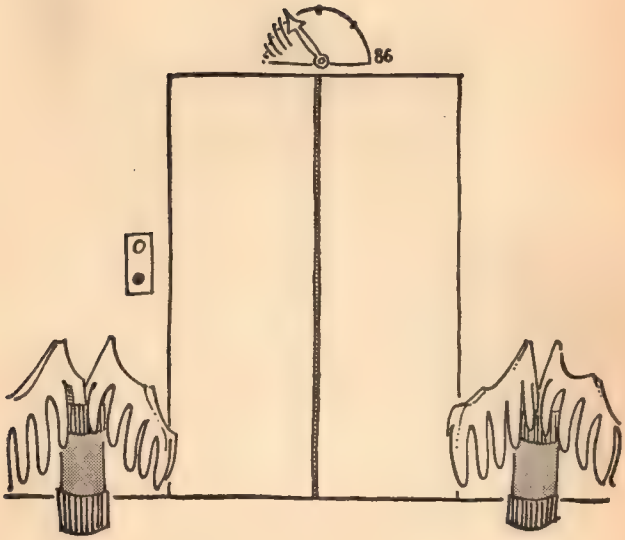

Oh my! We're terribly sorry, sir!


NOW JUST HOLD STILL A MINUTE AND WE'LL GET THIS THING OFF YOU!!!
UGH!
ECK!


UGH! AG!
ECK! OOO!

OFF!!
ARG!!
WAPH!!
OOF!!


86, PLEASE!
86
MPP!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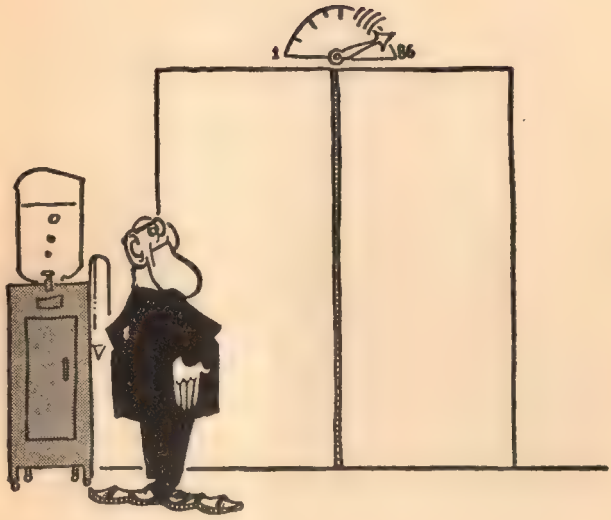
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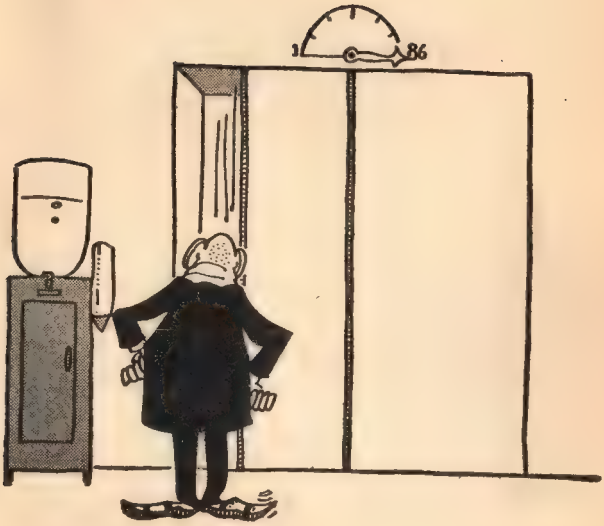
86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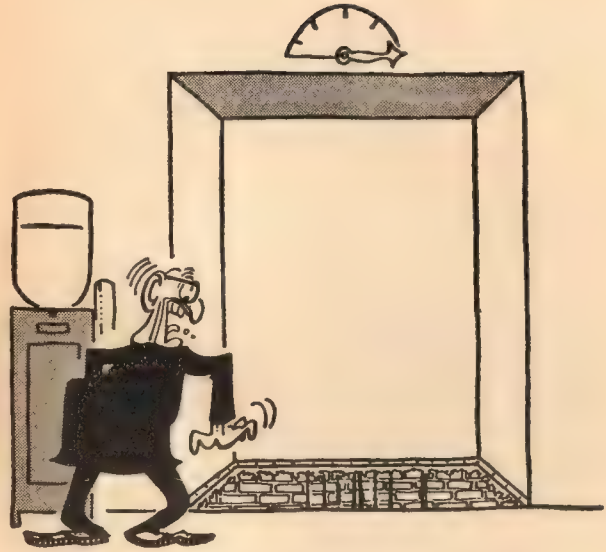
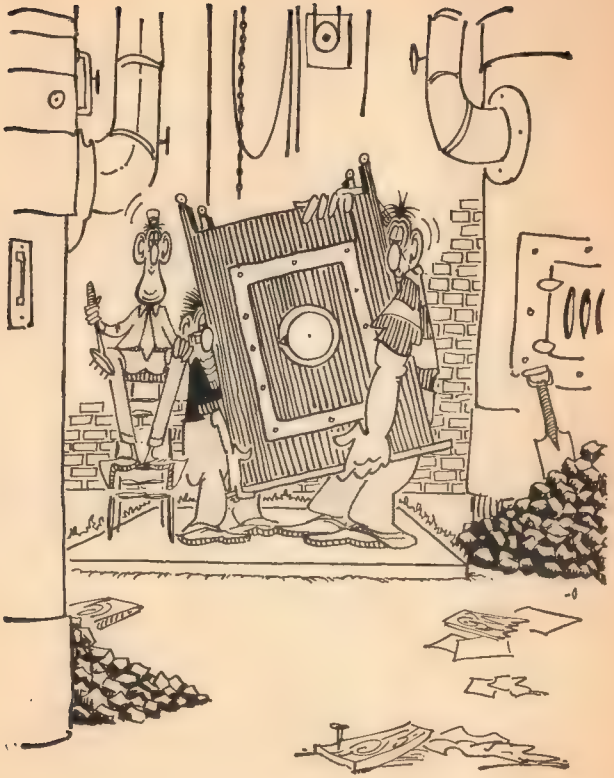
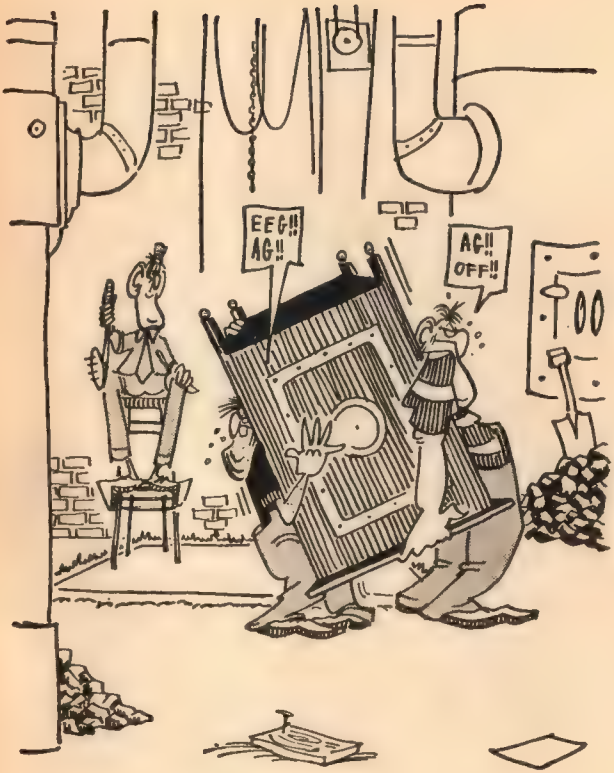


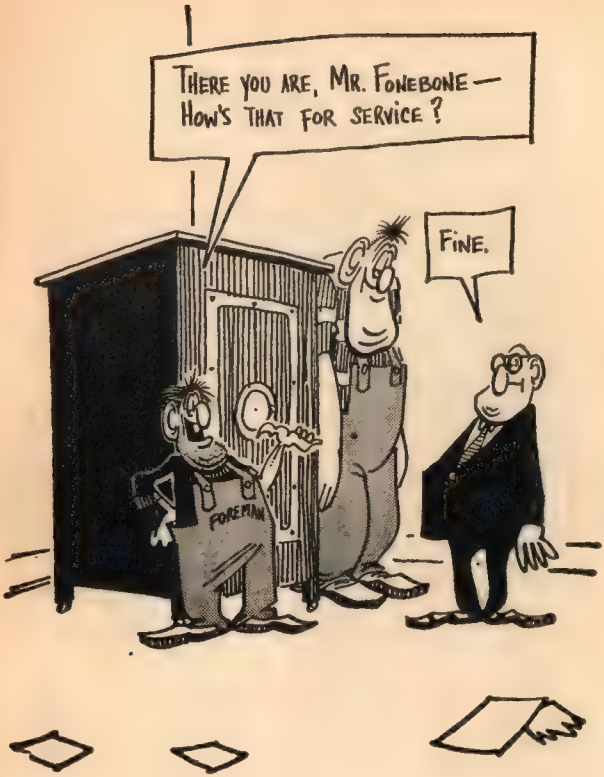



EEG!!
AG!!
AG!!
OFF!!

UGH-ECK!!
OOF-ACK!

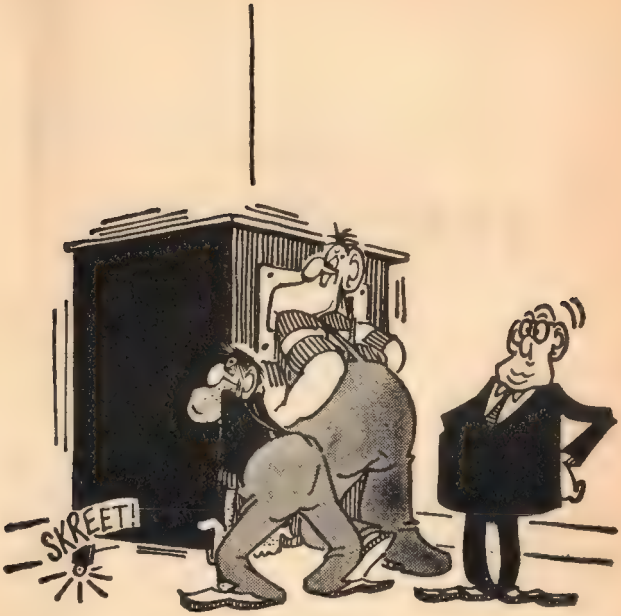
THREE DAYS LATER

EXIT
¡PN! ARK!
ARK!!


THERE YOU ARE, MR. FONEBONE — HOW'S THAT FOR SERVICE?
FINE.
FOREMAN

"FINE", BUT NOT PERFECT, MR. FONEBONE.
AND PERFECTION IS OUR HALLMARK!!
FOREMAN

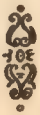
I WILL NOT RECEIVE ONE PENNY OF REMITTANCE UNTIL THIS SAFE IS EXACTLY WHERE IT SHOULD BE—ONE THIRTY-SECOND OF AN INCH CLOSER TO THE WALL!! READY KARBUNKLE?
DAWK.


SKREET!

END

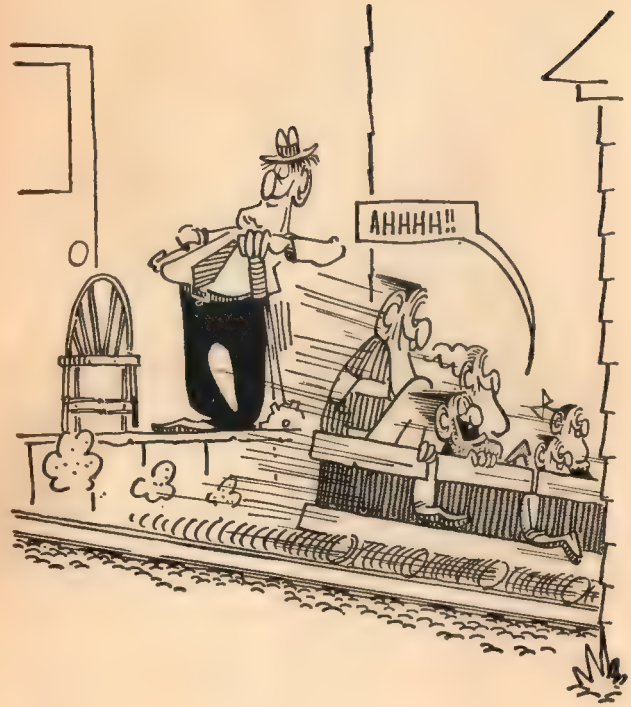
FESTER AND KARBUNKLE

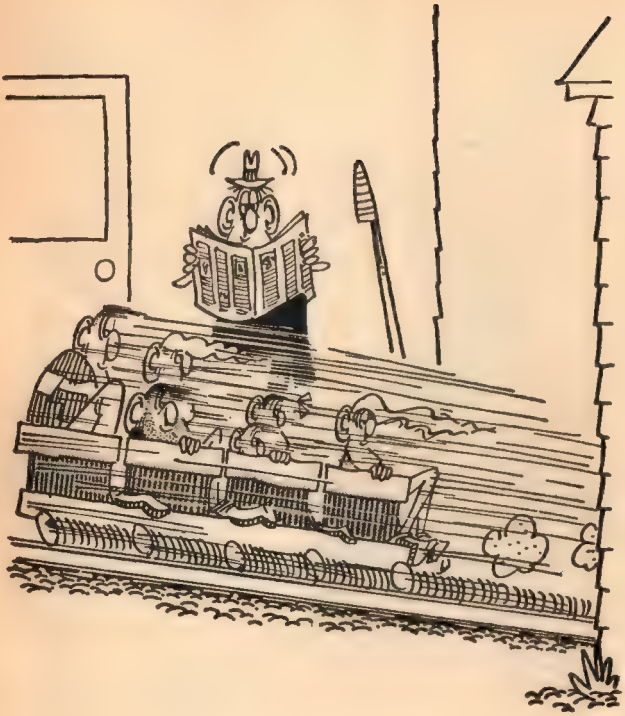
THE ROLLER COASTER RIDE

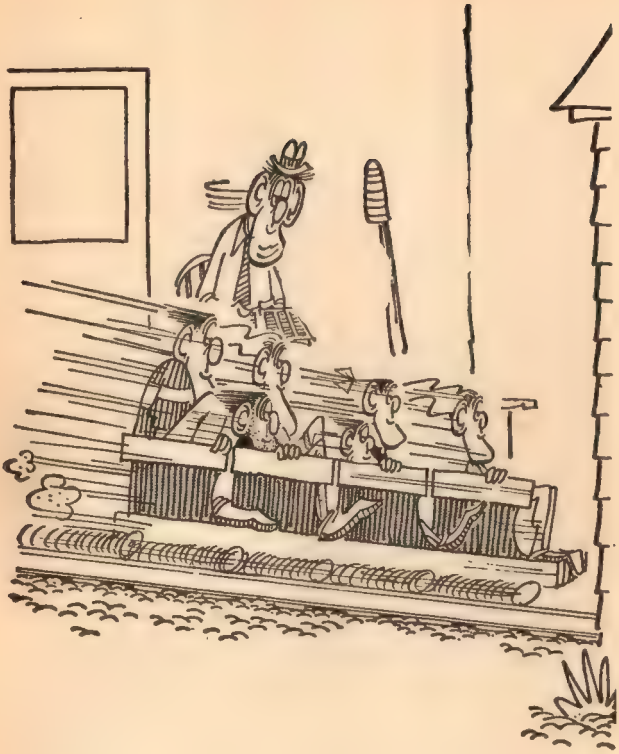


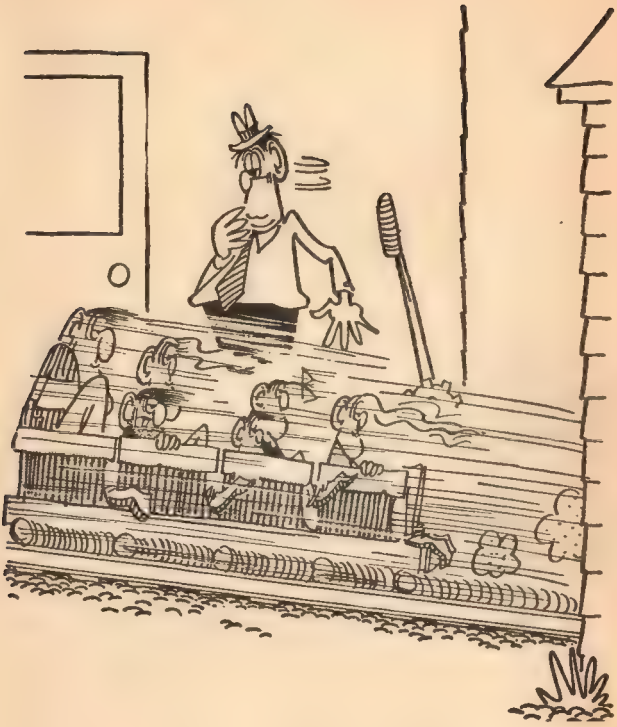
C'MON GANG!! WHAT DO YOU SAY WE HAVE SOME REAL FUN!! LET'S TAKE A RIDE ON THE ROLLER COASTER!!!
FONEBONE'S
ROLLER COASTER
10¢
OH, FESTER, YOU OLD DEVIL.

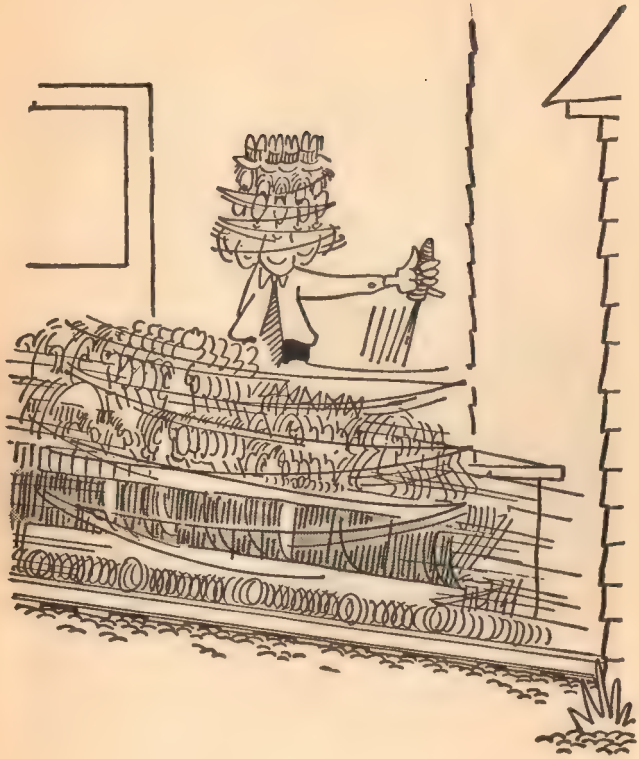
MAKE IT A GOOD ONE, FONEBONE ol' BOY, WE'RE A FUN-LOVING FAMILY.


AHHHH!!





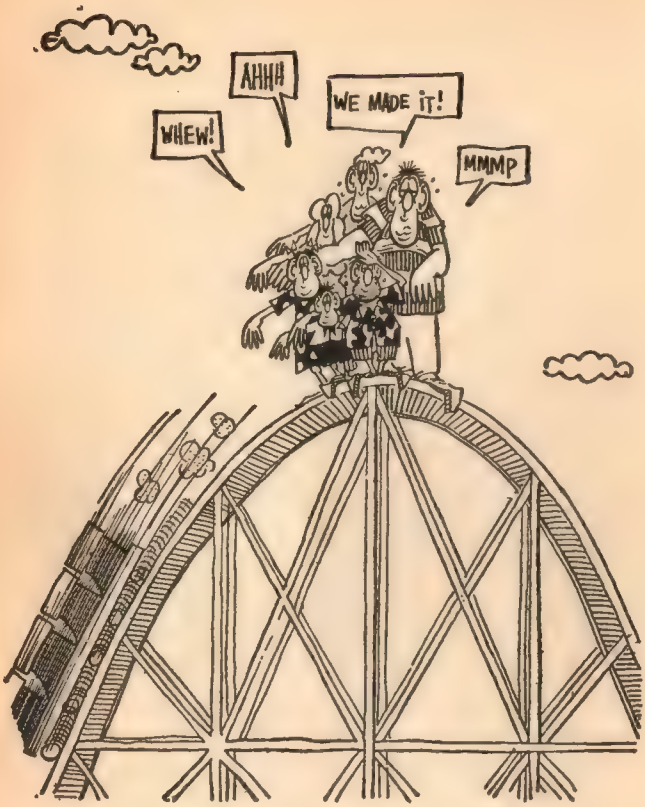


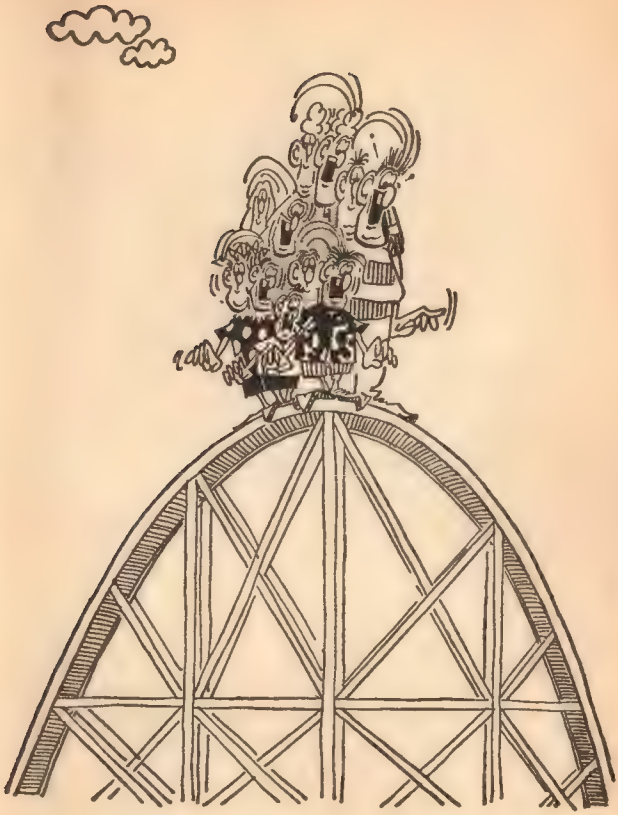


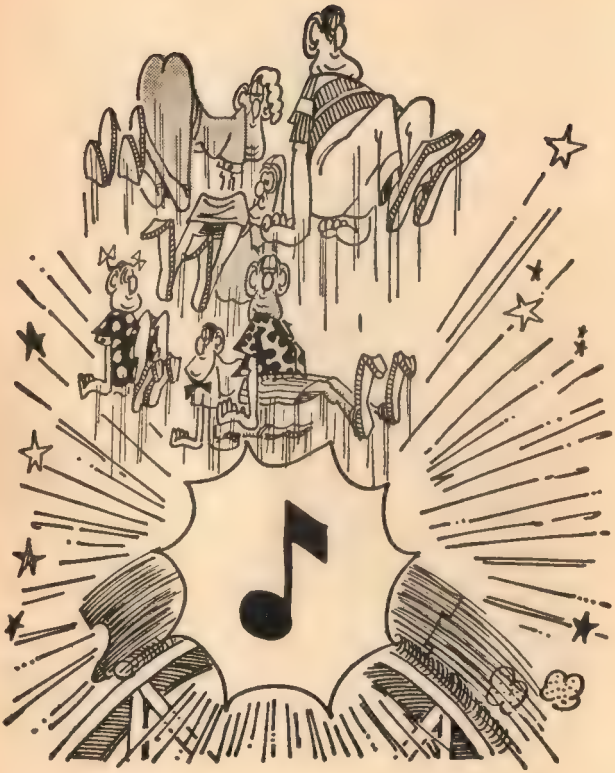
WE COULDN'T GET UP THE FIRST HILL.
OH!

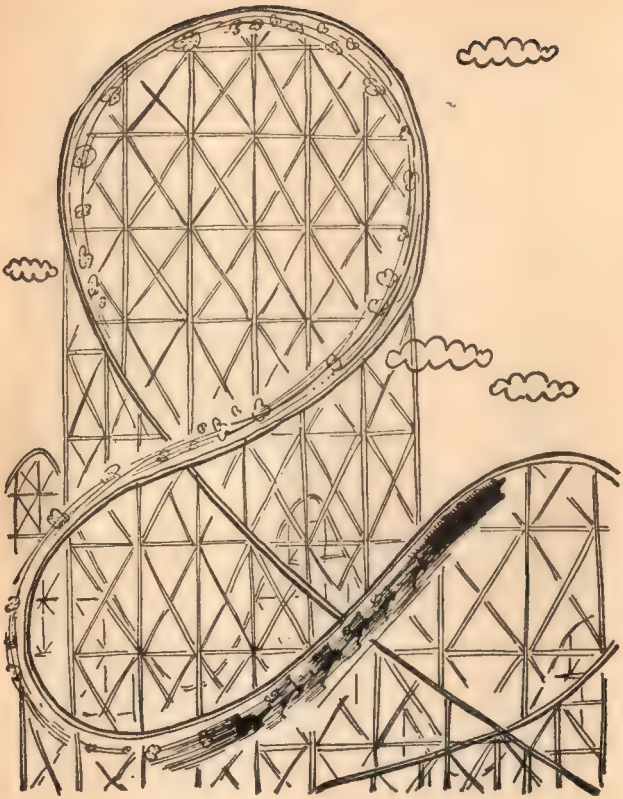
WELL, IF IT HAPPENS AGAIN, JUST GET OUT AND GIVE 'ER A LITTLE PUSH.

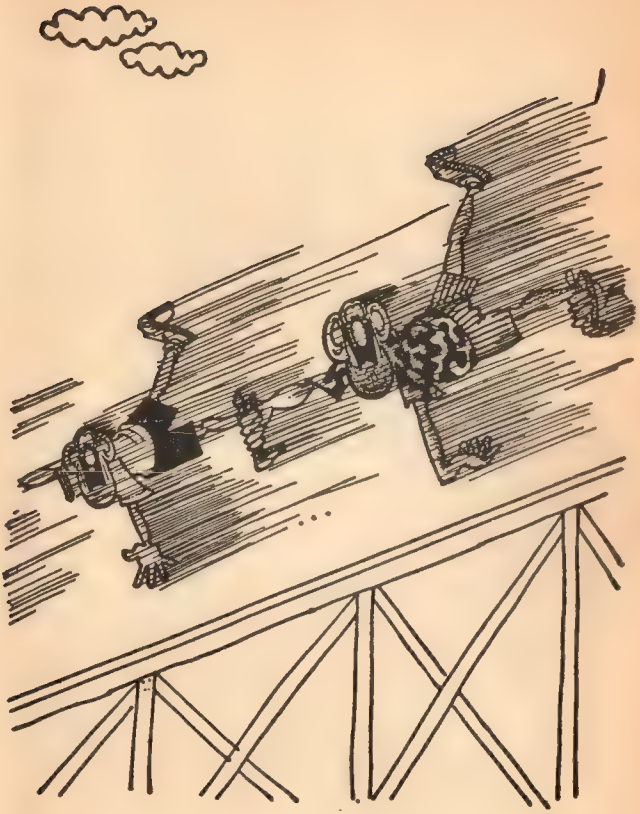
UGH
ECK
ick
OF
OHK


WHEW!
AHH!!
WE MADE IT!
MMMP







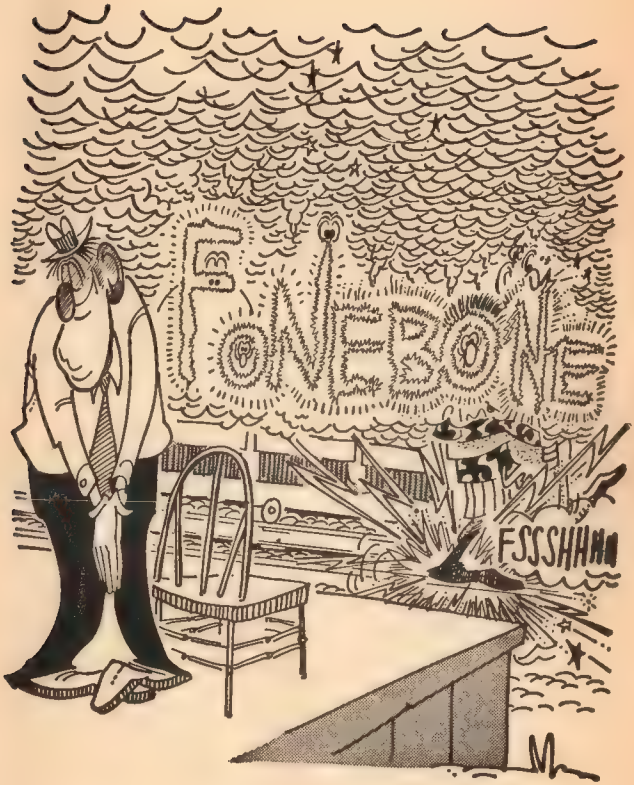


SKREEEEEEEEEE

By Jove, Mr Fonebone, that was the best roller coaster ride I've ever had!!!

YES SIR, FONEBONE OL' BUDDY,
YOU STICK WITH ME, AND
I'LL HAVE YOUR NAME IN LIGHTS!!!
BUT...
DANGER
—
THIRD
RAIL

SPUTTER
TSIT-
POP-
CRACKLE
SPAP
AKK
BZZT
FITSIT



END

A Sylvan Interlude In A Petunia Patch

AH, YES! "THERE'S NOTHING MORE DOWNRIGHT SATISFYING THAN TO SPEND ONE'S SUNDAY MORNING IN ONE'S GARDEN."

DADDY-DADDY!!!
LOOK WHAT WE JUST BOUGHT!!!!

SNEEZE POWDER.

YA-HA-HA. WHY, YOU COULDN'T MAKE ME SNEEZE IN A MILLION YEARS WITH THAT STUFF !!

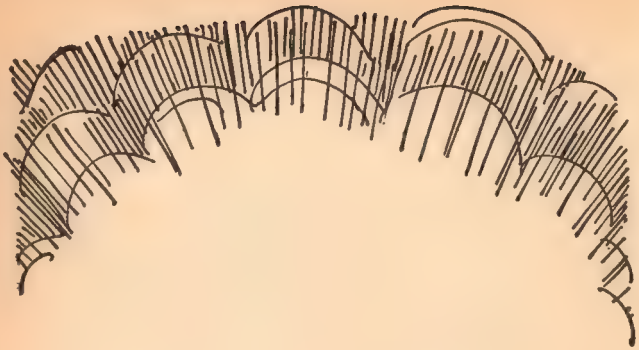
SKREEK!

PLUNK!!

SNEEZE POWDER

SHPLURP!!
FAST DRYING CEMENT
CLAY

DIT!! – DIT!!



END

KARBUNKLE

IN

THE PENNY ARCADE

THE TROUBLE WITH YOU IS, YOU'RE TENSE. THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH YOUR EYES THAT A LITTLE RELAXATION WOULDN'T CURE. I SUGGEST YOU TRY THAT PENNY ARCADE A MILE OR SO DOWN THE ROAD. SEE IT? YOU CAN JUST MAKE IT OUT THROUGH THE TREES.
FREENOBEAN I. FONEBONE
EYE, EAR NOSE & LEG SPECIALIST
PENNY ARCADE

YOUR
FORTUNE
1¢

YOUR
FORTUNE
1¢

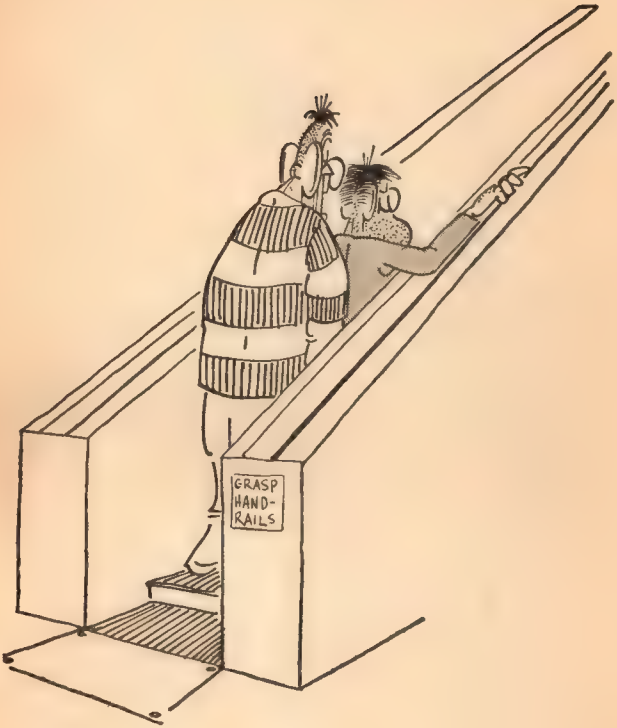
GONG

END

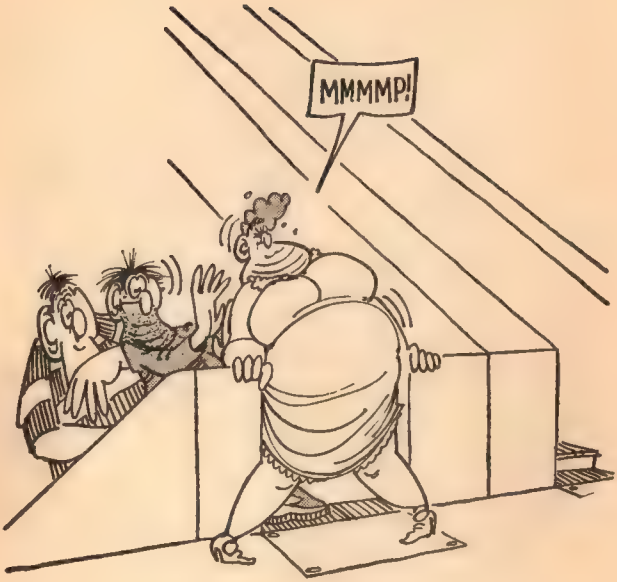
FESTER AND KARBUNKLE

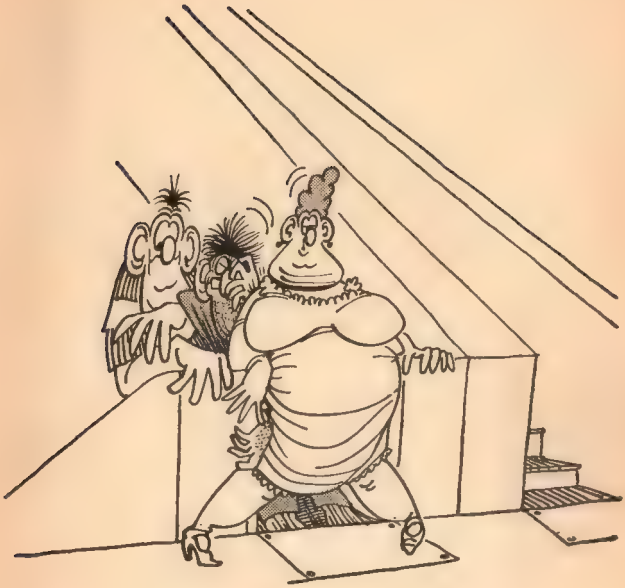
IN A DEPARTMENT STORE

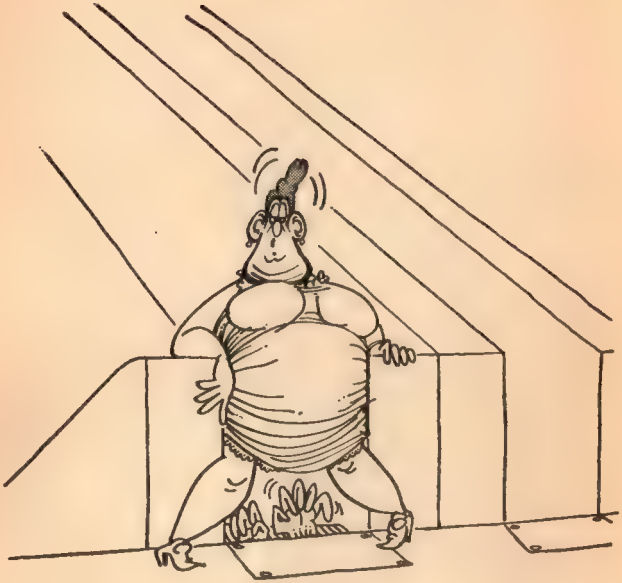
FOLLOW ME, KARBUNKLE. THE MUSIC AND ART DEPARTMENTS ARE UPSTAIRS.
DAWK!

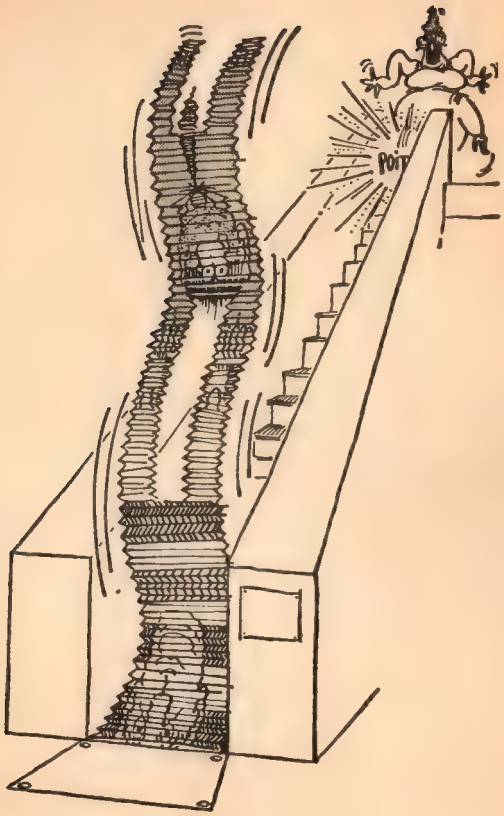

GRASP
HAND-
RAILS

UGH-
ECK!


MMMMP!

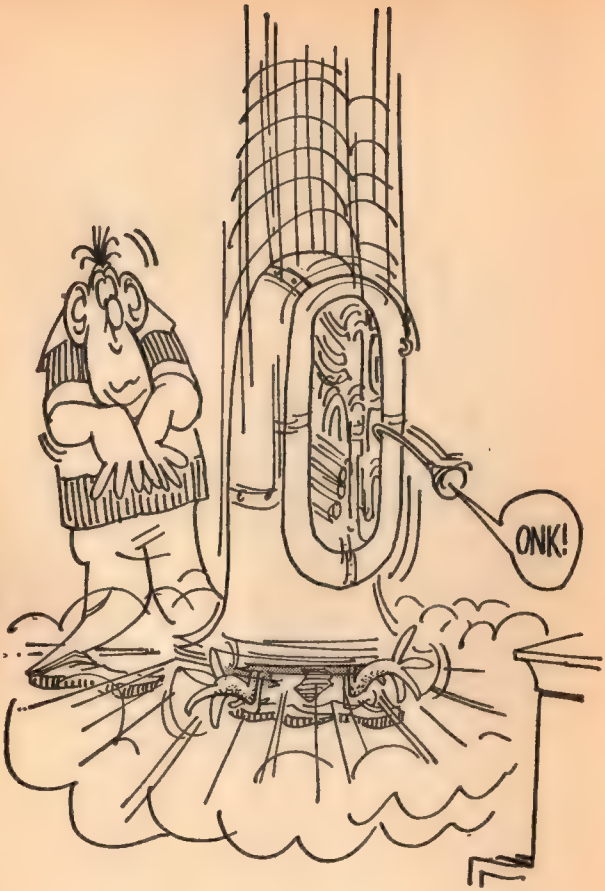




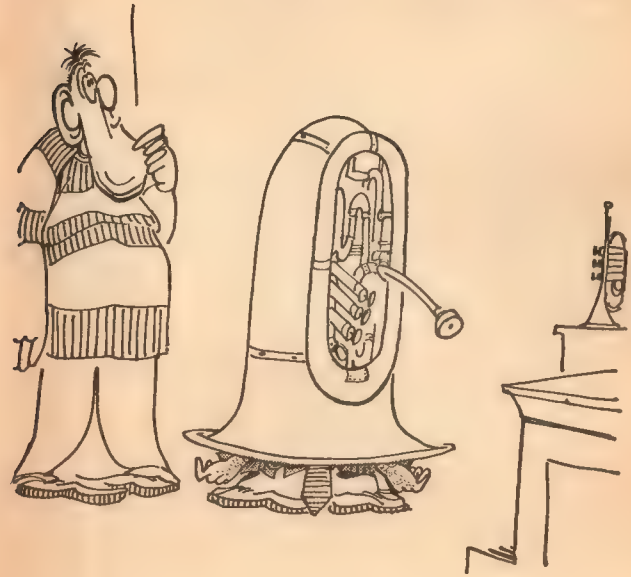

POIN

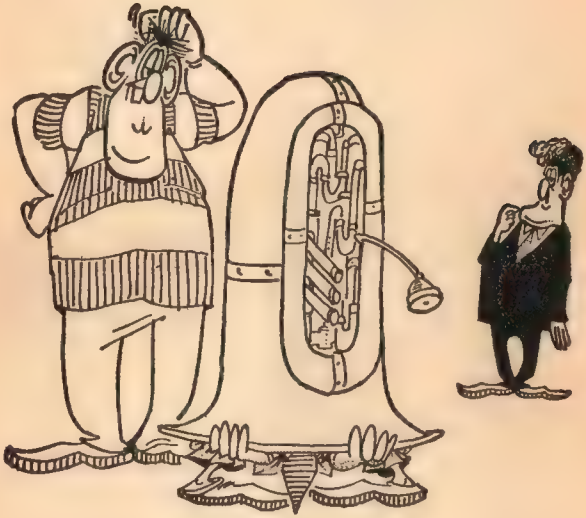
AHH! HERE WE ARE IN THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT. HOW BEAUTIFUL IT IS TO SEE ALL THESE FINE SPARKLING INSTRUMENTS.

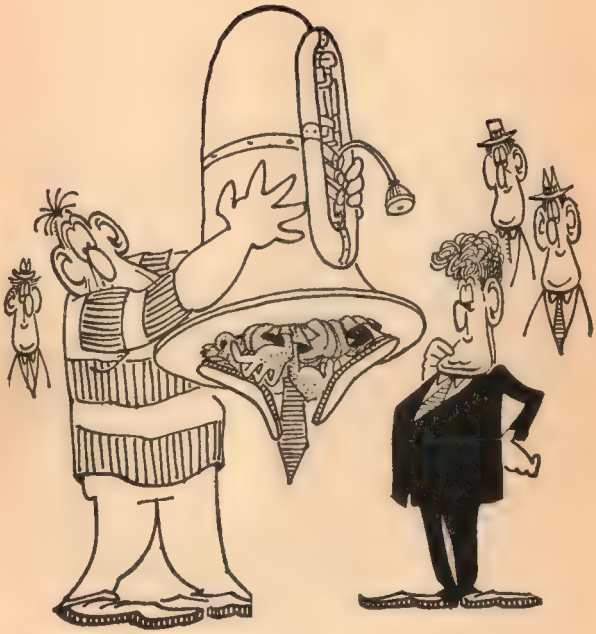
WHY, WHEN I LOOK AT ALL THIS.... I HEAR BANDS..... ORCHESTRAS..... SYMPHONIES.... WHY... I FEEL..... AS THOUGH I WERE A PART OF THE INSTRUMENTS THEMSELVES!!!

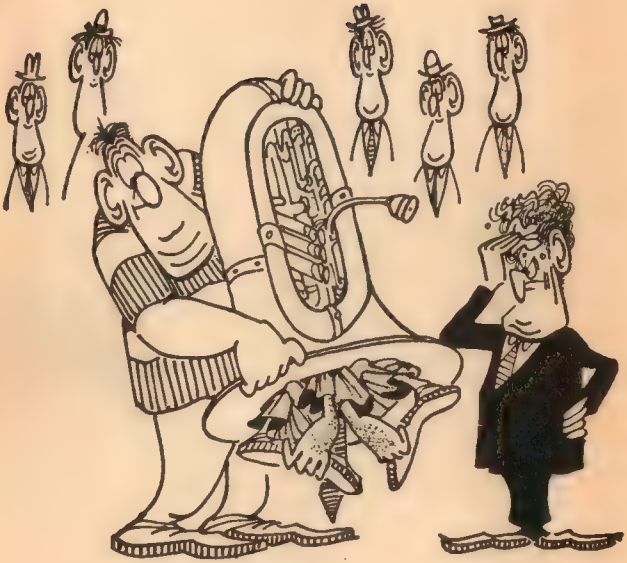

ONK!

I'M TERRIBLY SORRY!

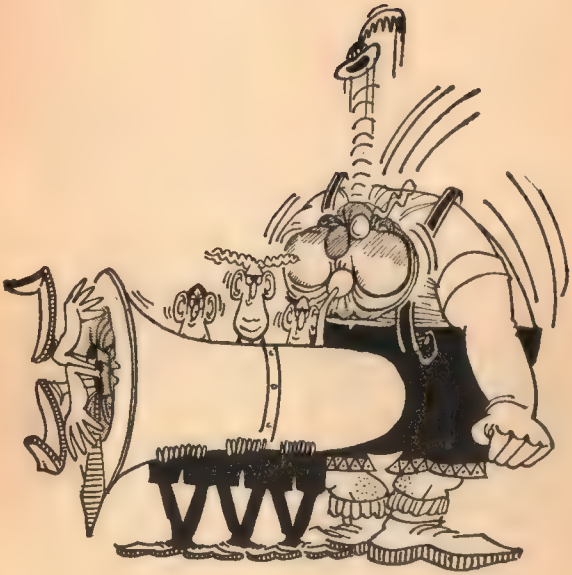


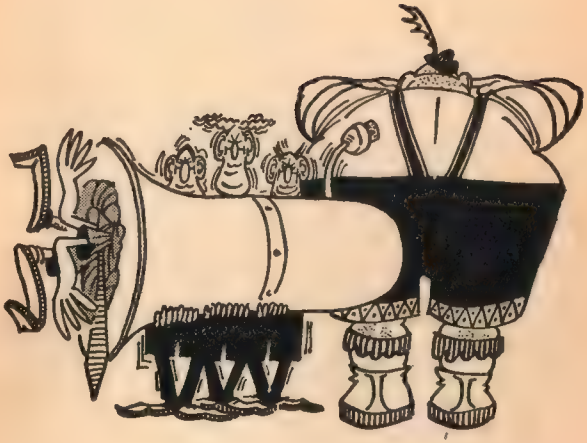


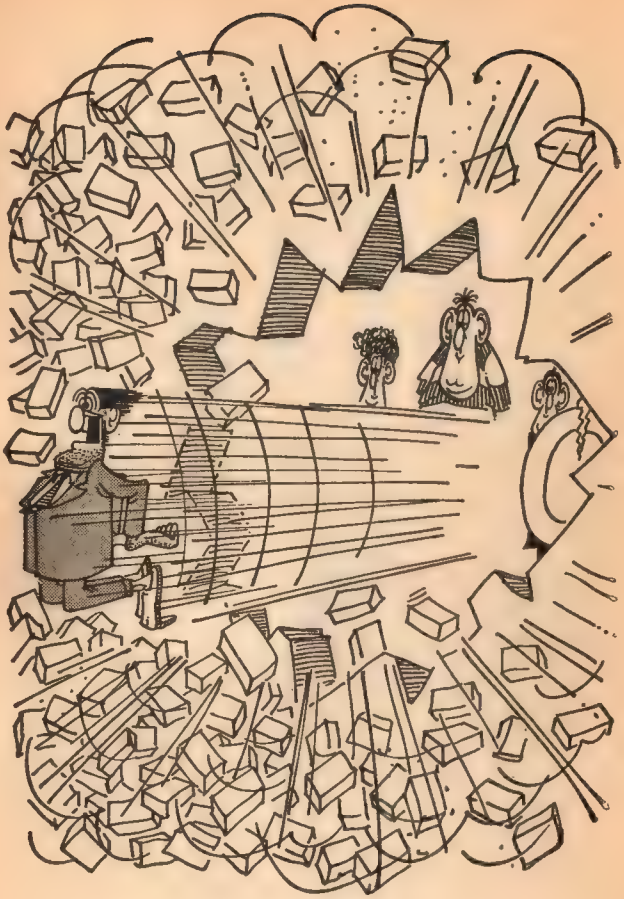


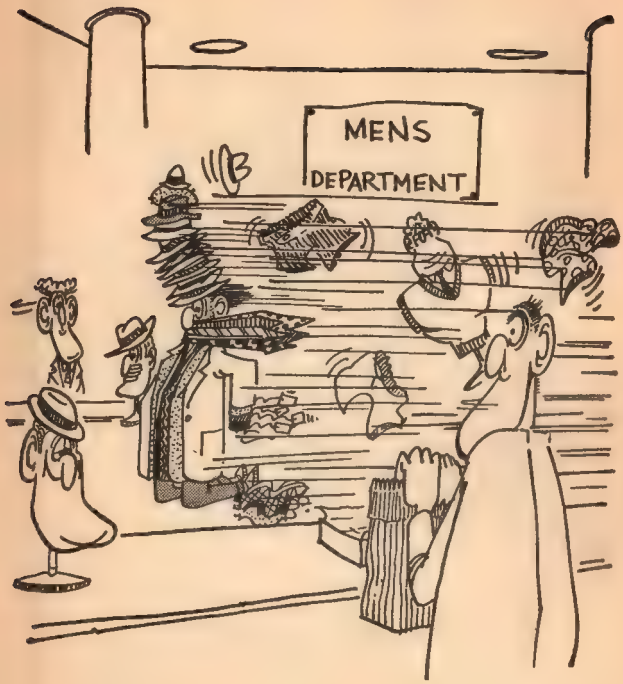


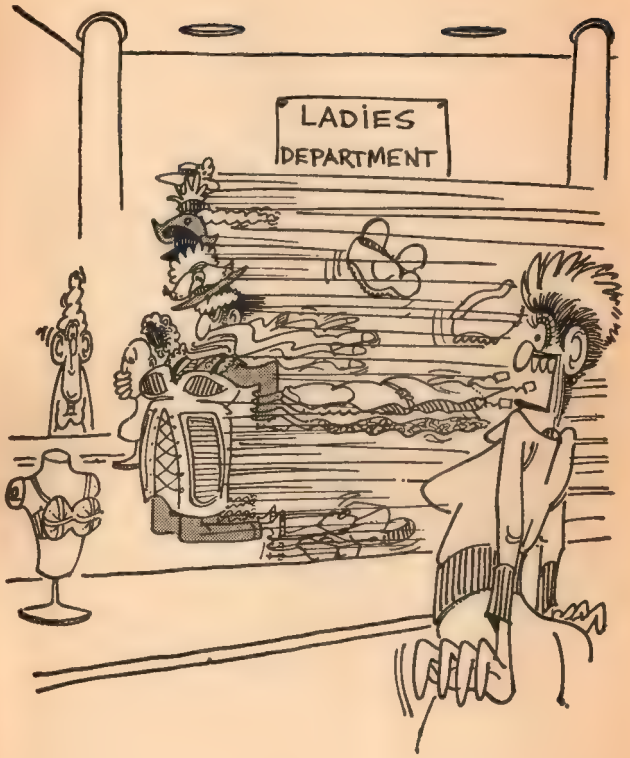
IT'S NO USE. THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO GET HIM OUT OF THERE. WE'VE GOT TO CALL IN ERIC VON SCHTERIC, "THE WORLDS LOUDEST TUBA PLAYER."



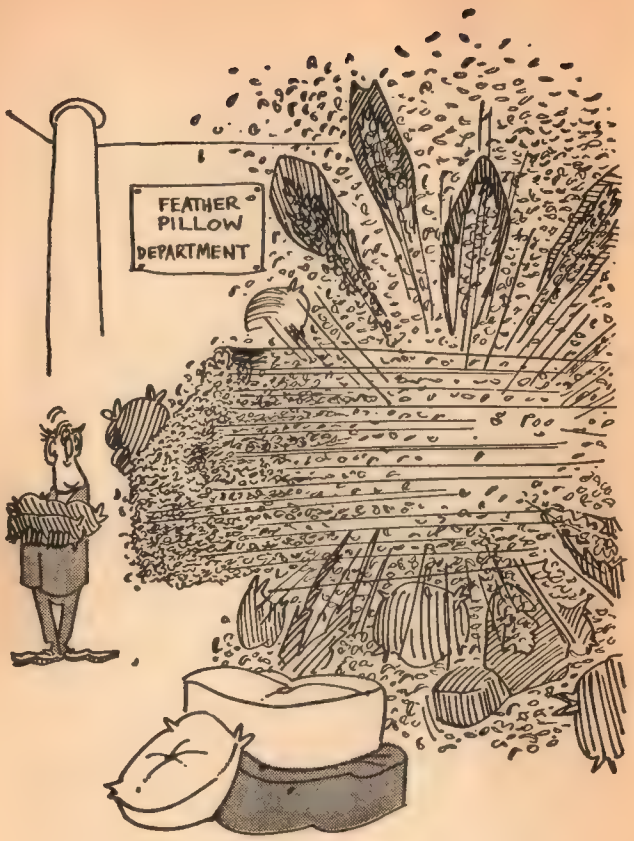


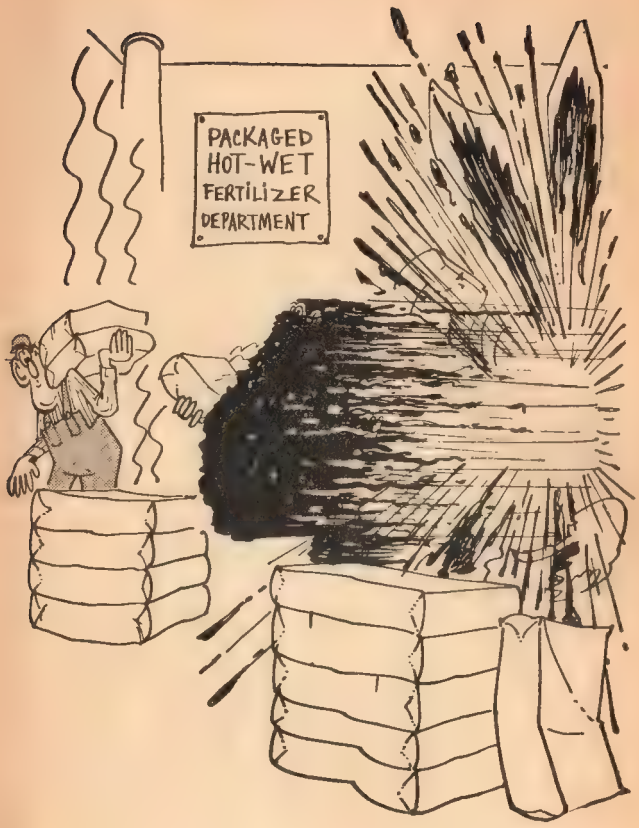



MENS
DEPARTMENT

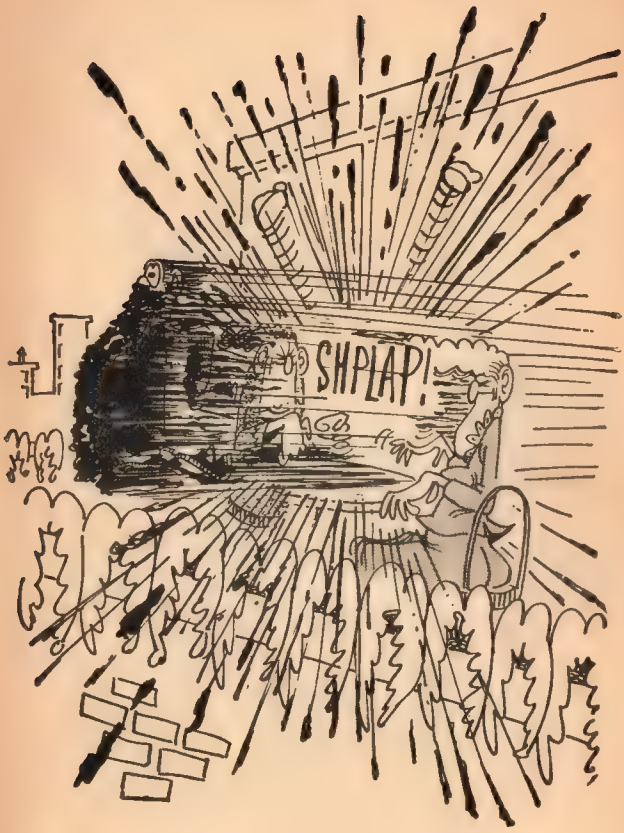

LADIES
DEPARTMENT

CARAMEL-FUDGE
CANDY
DEPARTMENT

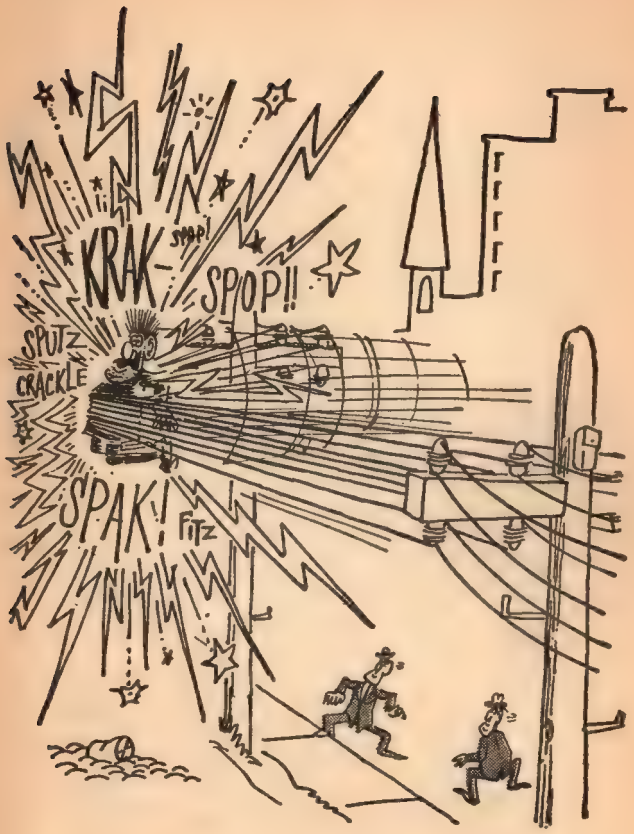

FEATHER
PILLOW
DEPARTMENT

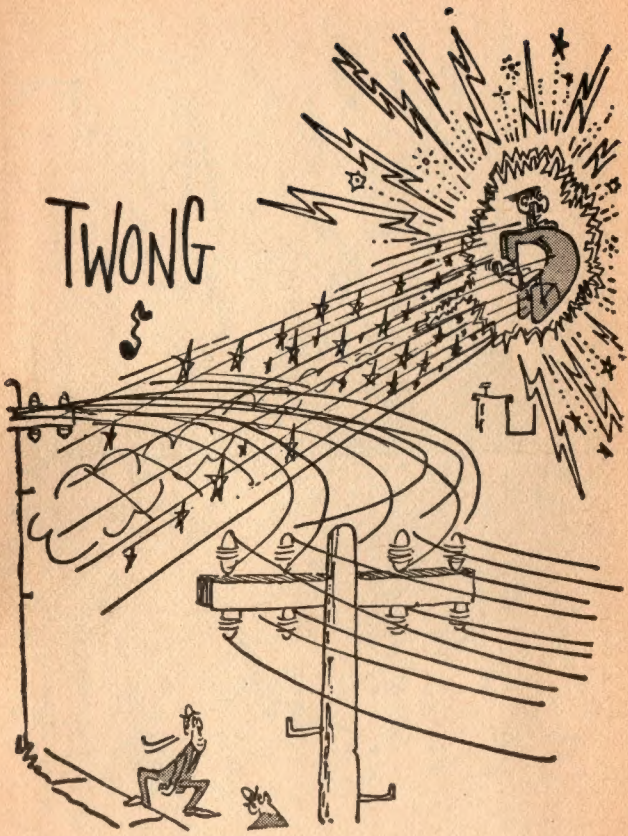

PACKAGED
HOT-WET
FERTILIZER
DEPARTMENT

MY, BUT ISN'T IT DELIGHTFUL HERE, AFTER SUCH A HECTIC DAY'S SHOPPING!
YES, ISN'T IT.
PATIO TEA SHOPPE DEPARTMENT

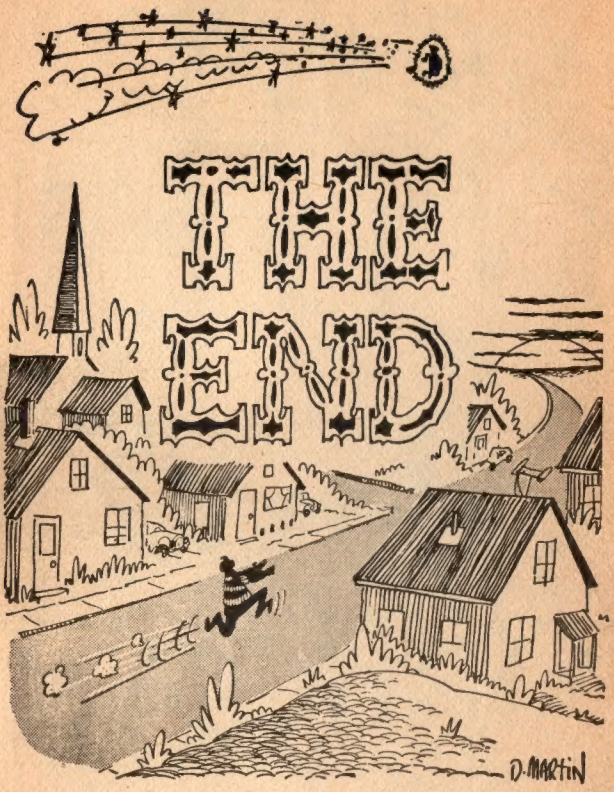

SHPLAP!

HMMMMMMMm
zzzzzz
zzz


KRAK-
SPOP!
SPOP!!
SPUTZ
CRACKLE
SPAK!
FITZ


TWONG

FUUUSHHH
I DIDN'T KNOW THEY HAD ENTERTAINMENT HERE!!
SHOCKING!


THE
END
D. MARTIN

Be on your guard, AMERICA...

Don Martin,

the nation's zaniest cartoonist, has temporarily escaped the custody of

MAD MAGAZINE

He's on HIS OWN and even SIGNET can't hold him back. We tried (oh, how we tried) to sit on his belly laughs, hide his funny bone, slap down his slapstick. BUT HE WON OUT, every time.

Here he is, **DON MARTIN**, MAD's wildest wonder in his first SOLO appearance. And sharing the spotlight with him are two incredibly kooky characters

Fester Bestertester and **Karbunkle.**

They're completely new, completely original,

COMPLETELY NUTS!

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